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*by Mr. J. I. Day*

# CALENDAR

OF

# VIRGINIA STATE PAPERS

AND

# OTHER MANUSCRIPTS

FROM

JANUARY 1, 1799, TO DECEMBER 31, 1807;

Preserved in the Capitol, at Richmond.

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ARRANGED, EDITED, AND PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY AND DIRECTION

OF

H. W. FLOURNOY,

*Secretary of the Commonwealth and State Librarian.*

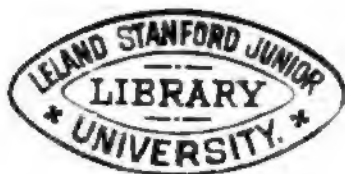
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VOLUME IX.

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RICHMOND:  
1890.





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## PREFACE.

The student of Virginia history will find in the perusal of this, the ninth volume of the Calendar, much of a general nature that is interesting and instructive.

Among other subjects will be found the following: Numerous reports of Major John Clarke, the State's superintendent of the building of the Penitentiary, the Manufactory of Arms, and the Public Warehouse—all at Richmond; Clarke's efforts to procure artificers for Armory in the Northern States, and his superintendency of the operations thereof; the State's contract with Swan for the purchase of arms in Europe, and the result; contracts with sundry parties in the United States for manufacturing arms; organization of the Militia; the murder of the De Teubeuf family; the Gabriel insurrection; the trials and execution of his coadjutors, and accounts of other insurrections; measures taken for establishing the boundary lines with Maryland, North Carolina, and Kentucky; impressment of American seamen by the British naval commanders; conduct of the British Government—firing upon the United States frigate Chesapeake (Captain Barron) by the British ship Leopard (Captain Humphries), off the Capes of Virginia, in 1807; feeling excited throughout Virginia thereby; conduct of Mayor and citizens of Norfolk; President Jefferson's proclamation on the occasion; correspondence between the Governor and other officers of Virginia; the Secretary of State of the United States and commanders of the British squadron, concerning communication with the British Consul at Norfolk; the surrender of impressed seamen and runaway slaves harbored on board their ships; general anticipation of war with England, and preparations therefor.



# Calendar of State Papers.

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WM. DAVIES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending Major De Klauman as Major Commandant of Arsenals contemplated to be established by the State.

1799.  
Jan. 1,  
Petersburg

---

Official Bond of William Berkeley for One Million of Dollars as Treasurer of Virginia for one year from the time of his appointment, and from thence until the end of the session of the General Assembly next after the expiration of that period.

Jan. 4

---

The General Assembly elects John B. Scott, Esq., Brigadier-General of the 11th Brigade of Militia, in the room of George Carrington, Esq., resigned.

Jan. 5

---

IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,  
*Monday, January 7th, 1799.*

Resolved, That the Executive be requested to state to this House the total amount of arms distributed by them in the various parts of this Commonwealth from the Arsenal at the Point of Fork, specifying in such statement the places to which the said arms have been sent and the number of arms to each place.

Jan. 5

Attest:

JOHN STEWART, C. H. D.

---

SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the honor to enclose a statement of the public arms issued to the Militia in pursuance of the orders of the Executive, and beg leave to refer you (as the best report which can now be made of their present situation) to sundry letters received from the commandants of Regiments

Jan. 9,  
Council  
office

1799.  
Jan. 9,  
Council  
Office

for whose use they have been issued and to whose care they have been confided.

The arms in the statement marked thus † have been nearly all returned and forwarded to the Point of Fork in order to their being repaired, but the vouchers for the numbers returned being in the hands of those who have returned them, and the obligations of those who have received them to return the whole when called for, being retained in this office as a means to that end, I cannot at this moment ascertain the precise number which remains to be returned. I believe that Captain William Giles has vouchers to shew that those which are stated to have been issued to him were deposited at Winchester on his return from the Western Expedition.

In the enclosed statement after those said to be issued to Captain William Richardson on the 6th of August, 1798, I am not informed whether those which follow have been issued or not, there being no voucher in the office to prove the delivery. Those to Captains Mason and Nelson advised the 29th of July, 1794, I believe were never issued.

I beg leave to remind you that three thousand stand of the State's arms were loaned to the United States on the Western Expedition.

I have, &c.

Jan. 11      The Deposition of Adam Sutherlin of Pittsylvania County, Virginia, given in Davidson County in Tennessee, as to the stealing by John Fallen of the Cherokee Country, on the night of the 24th of September last, of a negro man: and that on pursuing the said Fallen, he found him at Fort Massack on the Ohio, with his negro and the negro of William Coleman, and other property believed to have been stolen.

Bond of Adams Sutherlen taken in Davidson County Tennessee, before Thomas Talbot a Justice of said county, in the penalty of five hundred dollars to prosecute John Fallen, committed to the New District goal this day in the Courts of that State, for stealing negroes and other property.

WILLIAM HERBERT, PRESIDENT OF THE BANK OF ALEXANDRIA, TO  
THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 17      Forwards a statement of the condition of said Bank at the expiration  
of the last year.

JOHN TAYLOR GILMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 19,  
Exeter,  
New  
Hampshire

I am honored with your Excellency's letter of the 28th of December, enclosing sundry Resolutions of your Legislature, relative to certain



measures of the General Government, which you request me to communicate to the Legislature of this State.

1799.  
Jan. 19,  
Exeter, New  
Hampshire

Our Legislature concluded their session on the 28th ult'o, and do not expect to meet again until the annual election in June, unless some extraordinary circumstances should make it necessary for the Executive to convene them; at their next session the Resolutions will of course be laid before them.

With great respect, I am, &c.

---

JONATHAN TRUMBULL TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the honor of your Excellency's letter of the 28th ult., enclosing the Resolutions of your General Assembly relative to the measures of the General Government.

Jan. 21,  
Lebanon,  
Connecticut

Altho' deeply regretting that sentiments such as are expressed in the mentioned Resolutions are adopted by our elder sister, I will take the first opportunity to lay them before the General Assembly of this State for their observation and consideration.

I must, however, observe that it is probable our Legislature will not be in session until May next.

With respectful regard, I am, &c.

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Certificate of Miles Selden of administering the oath of office as members of the Privy Council to John Allen and John White, Esquires.

Jan. 23

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THE VIRGINIA DELEGATES IN CONGRESS TO THE GOVERNOR.

The unfortunate death of Mr. Tazewell, which is this moment announced, appears to us of so much importance to the State that we have thought it our duty to communicate the intelligence in the most expeditious way possible, and have therefore engaged the bearer to deliver this letter in the shortest possible time. We hope the importance of giving this melancholy intelligence before the rising of the Assembly, will justify our incurring the expense of carrying it in behalf of the State.

Jan. 24,  
Philadel-  
phia

We have the honor, &c.

Richard Brent, Jos. Eggleston, James Machie, J. Dawson, Samuel J. Cabell, John Nicholas, Carter B. Harrison, David Holmes, Josiah Parker, Matthew Clay, John Trigg, Abram Trigg, Walt'r Jones, John Clopton, Ab'm B. Venable.

The bearer has received \$100.

## THOMAS JEFFERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1799.  
Jan. 24,  
Philadel-  
phia

In obedience to an instruction from the Senate of the United States, I am to perform the melancholy office of informing you that the Honourable Henry Tazewell, late a Senator of the U. S. from Virginia, departed this life on this day. This is not a place in which I am permitted to indulge those reflections which the loss of so able and virtuous a publick servant naturally suggests. It rests with you, sir, to make that use of this information which is necessary for supplying his place as speedily as may be in the Senate of the U. S.

I have, &c.

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*In Senate*, January the 24th, 1799.

On motion—

Resolved, That the President of the Senate notify the Executive of Virginia of the death of the Honorable Henry Tazewell, late Senator of that State for the United States.

Attest:

SAM. A. OTIS, Secretary.

As the above came by express, who expects compensation, I request the Board to meet this morning, 11 o'clock.

J. WOOD.

Wednesday morning.

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Jan. 24      The General Assembly elects John Brown, Esq., a Brigadier-General of the Brigade composed of the counties of Hampshire, Hardy, and Pendleton.

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Jan. 24      The General Assembly elects John Preston, Esq., a Brigadier-General of the Brigade composed of the counties of Wythe, Montgomery, and Monroe.

## J. PRESTON TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Jan. 26      The Honorable appointment which the Assembly of Virginia has conferred on me, and which has been communicated by your board to me by inclosing the commission, I accept. While I do it, it is with the utmost diffidence, founded on an apprehension that my abilities nor experience are neither equal to the task of discharging the duties attached to that office.

The acceptance, Gentlemen, of the commission of Brigadier, makes it proper that I should resign my command of the third Regiment of artillery in this State. This I now do, and trust this vacancy will be filled by some Gentleman whose character merits that office.

1799.  
Jan. 26

I have the honor, &c.

---

ARCH'D WOODS AND WM. MCKINLY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Petitioning in the name and on behalf of the militia of Ohio and Brook Counties that the militia of those counties should be divided into two Regiments, separated by the dividing line between the counties.

Jan. 28

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J. EVANS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Petitioning for a division of the militia of Monongalia county by lines described in a petition heretofore sent.

Jan. 28

Also for a full troop of Cavalry for that county, the troop now allotted, being divided between the counties of Ohio, Harrison, and Monongalia.

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The Commissioned and Non-commissioned officers of the Seventieth Regiment of Militia in the County of Washington, petition for a division of the said Regiment into two Regiments, there being a sufficient number of men in that county for two such as the Law prescribes.

Jan. 29

---

JOHN STEWART TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Keeper of the Rolls in obedience to the order of the Honorable the Executive, has prepared copies of such papers as could be taken from originals deposited in the office of the General Assembly, and transmits them therewith.

Feb. 4

The Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and the Acts of Congress known by the name of the "Alien and Sedition Acts," not being found among the Records in the Office, cannot be furnished, or if procured elsewhere could not be certified.

The former will be found in the third volume of the late edition of the Laws of Congress, Folio 454—and the latter among the Acts passed at the same session of the Fifth Congress of the United States, Folio 42 and 67.

It is submitted to the Honorable the Executive, the propriety of making such compensation for the performance of this work, as in their judgment shall seem just.

## THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1799.  
Feb. 13,  
Norfolk

By order of the Directors of the Dismal Swamp Canal Company, calling on the new subscription for money to carry on the work.

## THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 24,  
Norfolk

Inclosed your Excellency will receive the proceedings of the directory, agreeable to your directions.

I have great hopes by next Xmas that a road will be finished through the whole of the Dismal, and that the cuts for the canal will meet so as to admit of a communication partially, that will shew the utility of the work and convince those who have considered it impossible to effect. The directors have contracted with gentlemen in Carolina for cutting half the width of the canal through the whole way, which was not before contracted for, being about five miles, and to finish the road, that a general passage may be opened, so that any person may undertake a small or large distance, as may suit their force to compleat the whole work.

Yesterday morning a fire broke out in the lower part of this place by the carelessness, it is said, of a woman leaving a candle in a garret, which caught some cloathes and set the roof on fire, by which about 70 houses were destroyed and leaves a number of distressed people. The flames were so rapid that much property was destroyed, and with the greatest exertions it was stopped in the square called Nock's Town, and part of another square adjoining Commerce street; so that from Commerce street to Tucker's lotts, and from Main street to Walters street, is destroyed, and not less than six or seven hundred persons deprived of lodgings in this inclement season.

I am, &c.

## B. H. LATROBE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 25,  
Philadel-  
phia

Acknowledging receipt of the Governor's letter, urging his return to the work of the Virginia Penitentiary; giving as his reasons for his long absence, the engagements he had entered into with the Bank of Pennsylvania, and also with the city water-works, but promising a speedy return. Advising the employment of a superintendent or clerk of the works, as indispensable to an economical and successful prosecution of the works, which the age and infirmities of Mr. Thos. Callis disqualifies him for, and recommending Mr. William Callis as eminently fitted for it by the experience acquired in his service.

Also sending specific directions for the Bricklayers of the Penitentiary house.

At a Court held for Greenbrier county the 26th day of February, 1799:

1799.  
Feb. 26

On motion of John Stewart, Colonel of the 79th Regiment of Militia, informed the Court that the late division of this county has reduced the said Regiment to one Battalion only; in consequence whereof he hath signified that he has resigned his office, which is ordered to be certified to his Excellency the Governor, that such arrangements may be made as he shall think proper and necessary.

A copy—Teste:

JOHN STEWART.

JOHN STEWART TO MAJOR WHITE.

I am requested to enclose to your care, the within order by the people of Monroe County, who I believe is more divided than when they was in this County with the people on our side. Mr. Hutchison their favorite, has come home, amply provided to secure himself the Clerk's Office; This has give great offence to an expecting party, as not less than three or four more were waiting, and a loud outcry against the poor fellow for providing for himself and recommending his old father Wm. Hutchison, who was removed to Kanawha near a year ago, but expected to return to accept his seat as Judge of the Court. I think from all appearances they will soon be wanting to divide again. I sincerely congratulate you on your late appointment, and believe I am with great respect, &c.

Feb. 27,  
Greenbrier  
County

N. B.—Since I wrote the above I have been requested to inform you that Alexander Handly and Byrnside, all live joining in sight of one another—indeed I think its no great wonder the people grumble.

At a Court held for Greenbrier County, the 26th day of February, 1799.

Feb. 27

Present: William Morrow, Samuel Price, Thomas Eagar, Charles Arbuckle and Wm. Craig, Gent.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of the new county called Monro, was presented in court, praying that this Court would recommend some persons in the town end of said County, to be added to the new commission of the peace for said County. On consideration whereof, the Court doth recommend Christian Peters, James Ellis, William Maddy and Michael Thisenger to his Excellency the Governor, as proper persons to be added to the said commission, and it's ordered that the said petition accompany this recommendation.

A copy—Teste:

JOHN STEWART, C.



1799.  
Feb. 27

Deposition of John Arbuckle acting Sheriff of Greenbrier County, taken before William Morrow a Justice of the Peace for said County, the 27th day of February, 1799, testifying as to the character and conduct of William Hutchison, late of Kanawha county, who while sh'ff in 1791 and 92, committed an offence against the laws of the Commonwealth, in consequence of which he is charged with absconding to another county.

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PHILIP SLAUGHTER AND HENRY HILL TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 10      Recommending Major Robert Powell, of Madison county, for appointment of Superintendent of Arsenal contemplated by act of 23rd January, 1798.

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MOSES BATES TO THE EXECUTIVE.

March 11,      Urging to have the work done by him under his contract measured by  
Richmond      Mr. Clark as he goes on.

---

ARCHIBALD THWEATT TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 17      On the — day of December, 1798, Mr. Maclin was appointed and commissioned coroner of Brunswick county and entered upon the execution of the duties of his office. In a few weeks afterwards, he accepted of the office of an assistant assessor under the Act of Congress.

The Act of Assembly passed on the 8th day of December, 1788, declares that a person holding a legislative, executive, judicial, or lucrative office under the General Government shall not hold a like office under the State Government (see the Act at large).

It is asked, first, whether Mr. Maclin can hold both of the above offices, and secondly, if he cannot hold them both, did his acceptance of the office of assessor supersede and annul his commission as coroner; or can he resign the office of assessor and continue Coroner without being again commissioned.

I consider the office of assistant assessor as a lucrative office, because the Act of Congress creating it annexes a fixed compensation. At the first view, it would seem from the Act of Assembly that ineligibility or incapacity to take or hold a State office of the description mentioned in the Act can only arise in one way: that is, by holding an office of the like kind under the General Government in the first instance; as if a man be a judge or marshal under the General Government, the appointment of the same man to the office of judge or sheriff under the State Government, I apprehend, would be void; or in the present case, if Mr. Maclin had been assessor in the first place, and was afterwards appointed

and commissioned as coroner, his authority as coroner would be void. But on further consideration, it appears that the mischief of holding offices at the same time under both Governments would not be remedied unless the Act of Assembly extends to the present, or unless no regard is paid to the particular time of taking the Federal office—as if a man be a judge under the State Government, and is then appointed to the office of judge under the Federal Government. I am inclined to think that his acceptance of the latter office would vacate the former. Therefore Mr. Maclin by the acceptance of the office of assessor, virtually superceded and annulled his commission as coroner, and consequently the resignation of the office of assessor will not enable him to act as coroner under the old commission. As I am not clear, I would advise Mr. Maclin (as he wishes to hold the office of coroner) to resign both offices and obtain a new commission as coroner.

1799.  
March 17

I am of opinion that Mr. Maclin by accepting the office of assessor has vacated his office of Coroner.

DAN. CALL.

---

JOHN MAYO AND JOHN WHITE, COM., TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Committee of the Executive appointed to visit and examine the state of things at the Arsenal at the Point of Fork, report that they have, in discharge of the duty assigned them, been to that post, and after a strict enquiry can find no grounds on which to found a belief that the information contained in an anonymous letter lately addressed to the Governor is true. March 18

They find, as far as they can judge, the Superintendent attentive to his duty and faithful to his trust. The soldiers forming the guard are well clad, and your committee is informed the mode adopted to obtain the clothing is by purchasing the cloth in Richmond and having it made into suits at the Barracks—the latter of which is done by a tailor who forms one of the guard.

They find 10 women are supplied with rations at Public expense, all of whom are well deserving that bounty from the hands of their country; and the committee beg leave to suggest their opinions that to extend the same indulgence to the wives of the two Sergeants of the Guard (Maddox and Perry) would be both proper and just, as they are in indigent circumstances, and the one a mother of 4, the other to 5, small children. The committee finds there are at the Post two Suttlers (Dawson, the contractor for the delivery of the rations, and a man of the name of Billard), and they are informed by the Superintendent that the difficulty he found in checking the soldiers from rambling off to Columbia, for the purpose of obtaining supplies of liquor, induced him to extend this indulgence to the above persons, with the condition of withdrawing it if

1799.  
March 18

any disorder was permitted. The committee finds also that Dawson, the Contractor, has delivered to the soldiers salt pork and bacon sufficient to supply their rations up to the 1st of July next, and are told that there is no discontent either on the subject of payments (which are made regularly and quarterly), rations, or cloathing.

The committee were well pleased to find the arms which had been repaired, in good order, and that in addition to the number returned by the Superintendent at the last quarterly return, there are 367 muskets repaired, oiled, and put away. The artificers are still engaged in the same business.

The committee, however, find that the Picketing so long since ordered by the Board is still incomplete, not quite  $\frac{4}{5}$ ths of it being done; but on enquiry, discover that blame attaches to the contractor (a Mr. Wells), and not to the Superintendent.

This man Wells the Committee saw, and urged in the most pressing manner the necessity of an immediate fulfilment of his engagement, which he promised with an assurance that nothing but the inclemency of the weather had retarded it till now.

The committee has also made the necessary enquiries respecting a birth at the Arsenal for Daniel Davis, but find none that would probably suit him; besides, they beg leave to observe that as several old servants of the Public, who have been discharged from there, are represented to be fully competent to this business of making the tools for the manufactory at Richmond, and as they are anxious to return to Public Service, that it would be no more than justice to give them a preference over any new applicant.

---

WM. HAY TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 18,  
Richmond

At the time the late Beverly Randolph, Esq., was Governor, the Plans and Drawings of the Capitol and the Public Prison, which were sent from Paris by Mr. Jefferson, were delivered to him, and were by him transmitted in a tin case to the Directors of the Public Buildings in the Federal city. Since that time I have never seen them.

P. S.—If the plans were now here I fear they would afford no light about the situation and construction of the flues. They were contrived and arranged as the work went on, and I think that Mr. Dobie ought to communicate to the Council all he knows about them, for he was paid for his services at that day.

March 22 The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To Reuben George,

Dr.

To 92,000 feet of plank and scantling delivered at the Penitentiary, for the use of said building, at £6.12.5 $\frac{1}{2}$ , - - - £609.8.1

Contra.	Cr.	1799.
By cash at sundry times, - - - - -	£465.0.0	March 22
" Bal. due, - - - - -	144.8.1	
	<hr/>	
	£609.8.1	

Honorable Sir:

The above statement is just.

THOS. CALLIS.

March 22nd, 1799.

Gentlemen:

Please pay to Mr. Smith Blakey four hundred and forty dollars on account of the above, and his receipt shall be good against your humble servant.

REUBEN GEORGE.

The Governor and Council of Virginia.

March 22d, 1799.

STEPHEN TEMPLE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding such returns as he could obtain of the strength of the several companies of Light Infantry of the 62nd Regiment, of which he was the Lieutenant Colonel. March 23

Certificate of Ensign William Parham, of the 62nd Regiment, as to the men raised by him for a company of s'd Regiment on the expectation of his obtaining the Captaincy of said company.

*Return of the Strength of Lieut. James Rives' Light Infantry Company, in the 2nd Battalion of the 62nd Reg't of Militia, of Prince George County.*

I do certify that the company of Light Infantry under my command, was raised in the fall of 1794 and was kept under the command of Capt. Wm. Call until his removal to Mecklenburg county in the spring of 1798, and has since been kept up and strengthened by the residing officers, and the quota of my enlistment is as follows: Sixteen men that formerly belonged to the company on the 19th of May, 1798, and five recruits since.

JAMES RIVES, Lieut.

January 12th, 1799.

I do certify that the above return, with the certificate thereunto annexed, was made to me by Lieut. James Rives.

STEPHEN TEMPLE,

Lieut. Col. Comm't 62nd Regiment.

At a Brigade Court-Martial held at Prince George Court-House on Thursday, the 7th day of March, 1799, for the trial of a charge brought by Ensign William Parham against Lieut. James Rives for furnishing a

1799.  
March 23 false return of the strength of the company of Light Infantry commanded by him, the unanimous sentence of acquittal was pronounced by the Court.

---

JOHN GUARRANTY TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 23, Certifies to the delivery in good order by Capt. John Tinsley, of five  
Arsenal hundred and twenty-six cartridge-boxes, made by him according to contract and deposited in the Arsenal.

---

ROBERT BROOKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 24 I am informed by Mr. Thruston, Escheator for the County of Frederick, that some time early in the last winter, it was advised by the Executive that Gen. Marshall, Mr. Randolph, and myself should advise him with respect to the claims of the Commonwealth to the real estate of the late Bryan Martin, which was by him devised for the benefit of aliens, and was supposed upon that ground to be escheatable. I have upon the information of Mr. Thruston given him my opinion on the subject, but Gen. Marshall considers himself engaged for Martin's family, and I believe Mr. Randolph waits to hear from the Executive, as he informed me he had no official communications on the subject.

Mr. Thruston presses me very much to attend his inquest, which is to taken on the 16th of the next month at Winchester, but this I presume cannot be considered as making a part of my ex-officio duty, nor could I comply with the request without incurring much expense and occasioning no inconsiderable inconvenience.

I have the honor, &c.

---

GEO. WHEELER TO A. BLAIR.

March 26, Offering to contract to manufacture 1,500 stand of arms (Gun and  
Falmouth Bayonet) within 12 months at \$13 40.

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G. DENEALE, ALEX'R SMITH, THOS. ROGERSON, AND MANY CITIZENS  
OF ALEXANDRIA, TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 27, Petitioning for a division of the Sixtieth Regiment of the Militia of  
Alexandria Fairfax county, so as to give one Regiment, to be composed of one company of Riflemen and five additional companies for the Town of Alexandria. The County Court of Fairfax to make the necessary nomination of officers.



SAM'L COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

It appears on the Journal of the Executive, under date of the 29th of December, '87, that under a resolution of the General Assembly of the 20th of that month and year, arms, &c., were distributed as follows: 1799.  
March 28

To the county of Monongalia 100 stands, Harrison 50, Ohio 150, Randolph 50. Total, 350.

That the above arms were sent from the public Arsenal at the Point of Fork to Morgan Town.

I have the honor, &c.

PHILIP SLAUGHTER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending Philip Lightfoot for a Lieutenantcy, to be stationed at the Arsenal contemplated to be established in Culpeper, Orange, or Madison. March 28

MADISON COUNTY, *April 6th, 1799.*

DEAR SIR:

I offer myself as a candidate for the Lieutenant's place to take care of the Arsenal to be erected in the county of Culpeper or Orange, if the vacancy is not filled up. I should be very glad to receive the appointment, as I am very well acquainted with the duty of a soldier, as I served regular during the last war. So doing you'll oblige me.

Yours, &c.

At a Court of Directors held at the Hospital in Williamsburg, for the maintainance and care of persons of unsound mind the 28th day of March, 1799. March 28

John Minson Galt, Philip Barrant and Matthew Anderson are recommended to the Executive as fit persons to be commissioned as members of this Court, in the room of Nathaniel Burwell who hath removed, William Terince who hath also removed, and Richard Randolph deceased; and in case of the refusal of either of the persons above named, to act under such commission, this Court doth recommend LeRoy Anderson as a fit person to be commissioned.

Copy.

WILL. RUSSELL, C. C. D.

*8th Month, 9th, 1799.*

John Harvie and Geo. Winston wishes the Executive to order all the bricks now laid in Penitentiary, and made under the Contract of 1798 to be counted. March 28

1799.  
March 31      Certificate of W. H. Cavendish that while serving as a member of the General Assembly from Greenbrier Co., in 1796, in company with John Hutchison, he did draw up a bill for the assessing the Lands of Greenbrier, Kanawha and Randolph, which bill was passed: but subsequently finding that owing to the conduct of the Commissioners, that great injustice was being done to the inhabitants of those counties, and that the law was in part unconstitutional, did last session draw another bill for repeal in those parts of the said Act of 1796, which bill passed the Town House of Assembly, but was rejected in the Senate. Therefore the law of 1796 still remains in force, which law cannot be executed with justice according to the expression of said act.

Given under my hand 28th March, 1799.

W. H. CAVENDISH.

March 31      To each of the Counties of the State the Governor sent by Express, according to the Resolution of the General Assembly of January 22nd, 1799, copies of the documents therein specified.

*March Court, 1799.*

March 31,      Present: Twelve Justices.  
Fairfax

The Clerk presented to the Court a packet received from the Executive of Virginia, addressed to the Justices of Fairfax, containing sundry Resolutions of the General Assembly in the nature of an Address to the People.

Whereupon it is Resolved, That the Court of Fairfax County, conceiving themselves appointed for the purpose of executing the Laws and to do impartial Justice to all and every class of men, think it highly improper in them to have anything to do with either party in the House of Representatives, either by distributing their Resolutions or addresses.

Knowing this to be their duty, they return to the Executive of this State the several printed pamphlets directed to them, and the Court do order their Clerk to inclose them directed to the Governor and Council, and to be sent to Richmond by the first safe opportunity.

A Copy—Teste:

G. DENEALE, Cl'k.

#### ROB'T QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 1,  
Arsenal      Inclosing the usual Quarterly Return of arms and military stores at the arsenal, with pay-roll and account current with Arsenal, showing bal. on hand of £16.12.10.

Also asking for a sight of an anonymous letter containing derogatory insinuations against his reputation.

*Quarterly Return of Arms and Military Stores at the Point of Fork Arsenal  
April 1st, 1799.*

1 16-Inch Brass Mortar, 1 Brass 6-pounder, 7073 muskets in good order, 798 muskets with unground Bayonets, 900 Artillery and Grenadier Swords, 7 Barrels of Gun Powder, 40 Pigs of Lead, 180 Canister Shot, 260 Cannon shot from 4 to 6 Pounders, 30 Rheams of cartridge paper, 18 Bbls. of Flints, 1650 Pounds of Buck Shot and Ball.

1799.  
April 1,  
Arsenal

The work of this Quarter:

498 Muskets cleaned, oiled, and put away; 324 Bayonets ground.

The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To John Atkinson,

Dr.

For going Express with publick Dispatches to the counties in

the route to Ohio, riding 920 miles at  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. per mile, - - \$ 95 84

To Ferriages, - - - - - 1 71

" Extra horse hire and feeding 36 days at 6s. per day, - 36 00

\$133 55

By Cash rece'd at the Treasury, - - - - - 50 00

Bal. Due J. A., - - - - - \$83 55

April 3rd, 1799.

April 1

On consideration of the Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the Town of Alexandria, It is advised that the 60th Regiment of the Militia of this Commonwealth be Divided, and that the said Town of Alexandria form a complete Regiment of two Battalions, to consist of four companies to each Battalion, which Regiment is to be Numbered (106). All the officers now holding commissions in the 60th Regiment, resident within the limits of the Town, to retain their respective ranks and Command, and are to be transferred to the 106th Regiment.

April 4,  
In Council

The Corporation Court of Alexandria are requested to nominate proper persons as Field officers, Captains, and subalterns to supply all deficiencies of officers for the Command of the Regiment, and of officers to command a flank Company to each Battalion, to be denominated either Light Infantry, Grenadiers, or Riflemen, and that the County Court of Fairfax be requested to cause the 60th Regiment to be formed into two Battalions, and to nominate to the Executive proper persons to supply the vacancies occasioned by the Division of the Regiment.

1799.  
April 4

Petition of Andrew Trouin, Lewis Rivalain, Miller Lester, and sundry other citizens of Richmond for the pardon of Janet Paul, a free mulatto woman, convicted in the Court of Richmond of Robbery of the house of Andrew Trouin. Her previous good character offered in plea for her.

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SAMUEL C. EDDINS TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 4

Soliciting a pardon of William Clarke, a soldier, convicted of a felony and condemned to be burnt in the hand. Pardon is asked on the plea of good conduct in the Western Army and the small value of the property involved.

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MERIWETHER JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 6

The bearer, Peter Paul, who solicits a pardon for his wife for committing (if she is at all guilty) a venial offence, is, altho' a black man, an extremely meritorious character.

When the massacre of the whites in St. Domingo took place, the fellow by his fidelity, saved the life of his master, and thereby procured his emancipation; and so high does he stand in my estimation, that I should be inclined to pardon his wife for a more heinous offence, because I believe the honor of the husband, if convinced of her error, would be the best security for her good behaviour.

I hope you will excuse this application. The poor fellow thinks it may have some effect, and I could not refuse to contribute my aid towards his relief.

I am, with respect, &c.

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THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 7,  
Norfolk

I some time ago inclosed your Excellency the proceedings of the directors of the Dismal Swamp Canal Company, requesting me to draw for the State's quota of the requisition called for by the first of this month. We are now in great want, for the reasons I then assigned, and if your Excellency will please to send down a warrant on the Treasury for the \$1000 payable to me, I can make it answer here as well as cash, and save the risque of bringing money down. Capt. Vaughan, from this place, will be a good hand to send it down by; or if it is given Mr. James Heron, it will answer the purpose as well, as he is coming down.

Gen. Lee, when Governor, took possession of a piece of land belonging to me to erect Fort Nelson, which was worth at least thirty pounds a year. At the instance of the Secretary of War for the United States to

Captain Blackburn, it has been valued by Capt. B.'s appointment of Col. Byrd, and my appointment of Mr. Baylor Hill, at £500, and I cannot get the least satisfaction either for rent or valuation, which I suppose may arise from an Act of last Congress, allowing each State the power of laying out what money is due the U. S. in fortifications, &c. I shall be exceedingly obliged to your Excellency for information whether my conjectures are right, as I should be as well satisfied with a payment here as from the U. S.

1799.  
April 7,  
Norfolk

I pray you excuse this trouble and believe me, yours, &c.

Balance in the Treasury, - - - - -	\$25,760 63
Deduct \$1,000 on account of 20 new shares in the Dismal Swamp Canal, which has been called for by the Directors; this is not yet paid, - -	\$1,000
The Appomattox Canal Company will likewise, I am informed, require another payment, say - 2,000	2,000
	<hr/> 3,000 00
	<hr/> \$22,760 63

April 8,  
Treasury  
Office

W. BERKELEY.

A petition of numerous citizens of Mecklenburg county for the pardon of two negro men named George and Jack, the property of Elijah Graves, convicted in the Court of said county of the murder of their master, the said Graves, for which another negro man named Nathaniel had also been convicted by said Court and executed; the evidence on the trial having failed to show any further participation in the murder by George and Jack than their helping to conceal the body.

April 8

CHARLES CAMERON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing of the death of John Oliver, Esq., Sheriff of Bath county; suggesting that another be appointed in time for the May term of the Court.

April 9,  
Bath Co.

Mrs. Alice McClintic, heretofore on the list of Pensioners, has been omitted for the year 1798; desires to know if intentionally.

April 3, 1799.

Application of Henry Bell, of Madison, for appointment as Superintendent of Arsenal contemplated to be established by the State.

April 9

JAMES MADISON, PHILIP SLAUGHTER AND GEO. C. TAYLOR TO THE  
GOVERNOR.

1799.        Recommending Henry Bell, of Madison county, for appointment as  
April 9       Superintendent of an Arsenal contemplated to be established by the State.

H. CAPERTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 12,       Remonstrating against the right of William Hutchison to act as a  
Richmond       magistrate in Monroe county, he having taken up his residence in  
Kanawha county.

E. CARRINGTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 16,       Recommending Captain James Spears, of Cumberland county, who is  
Richmond       endeavoring to procure arms for his company of Light Infantry, as  
entirely trustworthy.

April 17       I, John Taylor, of the county of Caroline and State of Virginia, do  
hereby certify that Leroy Hipkins (whom I have heard for some time  
past had been pressed on board a British vessel of war) is the son of a  
widow lady who is my near neighbor; that I knew his father before he  
was married, and am well acquainted with the families both of his father  
and mother, and that both of them were Virginians, as is also the said  
Leroy. I also certify that I have this day seen a letter from the said  
Leroy Hipkins to his mother, dated at Port Royal in Jamaica, whence it  
appears that the said Leroy Hipkins is now on board the Stork, British  
sloop-of-war, that he is detained against his will, and soliciting his friends  
to forward him certificates in order to obtain a discharge, and that, from  
certain references to his connections here in this letter, it indisputably  
appears that the writer who subscribes himself "Leroy Hipkins" is the  
same person as above spoken of.

JOHN TAYLOR.

April 12th, 1799.

Certificates to the facts stated by John Taylor, signed by numerous  
citizens of Caroline county, herewith filed.

G. DENEALE TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 17,       Your favor inclosing the order of the Executive of the Eleventh Inst.  
Alexandria       was duly received and in compliance therewith, you will receive inclosed  
the order of the Court alluded to. The pamphlets have remained in my

office since that time and are now forwarded to Richmond by Stage to your address.

1799.  
April 17,  
Alexandria

I should have forwarded the pamphlets sooner, but there were several in circulation here before I received those sent to the Justices of Fairfax, and on the Courts ordering them to be returned, there was between 500 and 1000 copies of the address to the people immediately printed in this place at private expense, and distributed among the people, and of course I thought it of little moment, in attending to the few in my possession.

I am, &c.

The Executive having received information that the County Court of Fairfax, had on the receipt of the Governor's letter accompanying the resolutions of the last Assembly, with their address to the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia, directed their clerk to return the pamphlets containing the said resolutions and address to the Executive, do advise that the Clerk of this Board be instructed to write to the Clerk of Fairfax, requesting him to furnish this Board with the copy of the order above alluded to, and to inform the Executive how the said pamphlets have been disposed in consequence thereof.

April 17,  
In Council

A statement of the Number of arms which have been issued from the public Arsenal to the Militia of this Commonwealth during seven years last past, and not returned thereto except to a very inconsiderable amount:

April 17

Number issued from May 24th, 1792, to April 17th, 1799—

Muskets,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,786
Bayonets,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,786
Cartridge Boxes,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,786

Returned—

Muskets,	-	-	-	-	-	-	138
Bayonets,	-	-	-	-	-	-	127
Cartridge Boxes,	-	-	-	-	-	-	112

MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking for an advance of three or four hundred dollars on the brick work done by him on the Penitentiary house.

April 20,  
Richmond

1799.  
April 22,  
Norfolk  
Borough

Norfolk Borough—At a Hustings court held the 22nd day of April, 1799:

The Clerk laid before the Court sundry pamphlets containing an address from a majority of the General Assembly to the citizens of this Commonwealth, for the purpose of having them distributed under their authority, which was ordered to be read.

The Court, taking the same into their most serious consideration, are impressed with a firm belief, they cannot, consistently with their duty, take any steps in promoting a measure which to them appears to originate in the exercise of powers truly anomalous and alarming, injurious to the public welfare, and destructive of all order, to maintain which is their peculiar province, as well as bounden duty. Acting under the obligations of a solemn oath to support and defend the constitution of the United States, and ever mindful of its sacred injunctions, and fully persuaded of the sincere attachment and unshaken fidelity of the citizens of this Commonwealth to the Government of their choice, they can not allow themselves to be instruments of disseminating opinions and principles, tending to undermine the federal authority, and may probably lead to a dissolution of the social compact.

While the Court are ready to applaud the vigilance of their fellow-citizens in watching over and by a becoming jealousy preventing any encroachment upon the rights of the people by those in power, still it may be no less their duty, carefully to avoid being misled by specious intriguers, who, concealed under the alluring garb of superior patriotism, are artfully projecting plans to promote their personal aggrandizement to sap the foundation of our excellent constitution, to sever the Union, and finally, to bring upon our envied and happy country all the horrors flowing from civil discord—than which nothing in the opinion of the Court can be more calamitous.

Invariable in their conduct, this court will, to the best of their skill and ability, faithfully and impartially discharge their duty without regarding the frowns or courting the smiles of any man or set of men in or out of power, and in no other manner can they satisfy their consciences or their God.

For the reasons herein enumerated, and not being bound to fulfil an act of the Legislature destitute of the legal forms required by the constitution, tho' incapable of contravening any known Law of the Land, the Court, after mature deliberation, unanimously determine that the pamphlets transmitted to them shall remain in the clerk's office for the inspection of those who are inclined to peruse them, subject to the future order of the Executive and published in the papers of this Borough.

A copy—Teste:

ALEXANDER MOSELEY, C. N. B. C.



## G. DENEALE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your favor of the 19th Inst. was duly received, and I communicated to the Court of Fairfax, the contents of your letter concerning the rule established by the Executive, with respect to the nomination of Magistrates, and the Court at their last sitting, directed notice to be given, that the recommendation will be made at May Court next.

1799.  
April 25,  
Alexandria

I am, &c.

*Extract of a Letter from James Swan to R. Pollard, rece'd July 11th, 1799.*

## JAMES SWAN TO R. POLLARD.

To my last of the 23 ult. I refer. The Prosper has taken on board but 1,200 of the arms, and the derangement of the consignee here has ordered her away without waiting even to take the Cartridge Boxes and 800 more arms that lay the other side of the river. The remainder are at Copenhagen and Saxony, and by letters of the 20th inst. the ice still prevented their getting out of that port to come hither, as no vessel was there bound to any port of the United States. Such a season never was known. Yesterday even a great quantity of snow and hail fell, and indeed when the Spring will come no one can tell.

April 28,  
Hamburg

I have engaged the rest of the Arms and Cartridge Boxes to go by the Ship —, Capt. Connor, for Baltimore, and trust the ice will not prevent the arms arriving in time from Copenhagen.

One part of them is in the Elector of Saxony's dominions, and as the war is recommenced and all have fear, I am perplexed to get them out of his District, but shall succeed. This last portion I am afraid will not arrive by the 1st July, and seeing the rigour of the winter which froze the water 4 months, I dare not hope even to ship all the least 4000 earlier than, if by the 1st of July. I trust your Governor will not refuse receiving them tho' after the time, as I have done more than any other man I believe could have done.

## MERE. JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Inquiring as to the number of Acts of Assembly, it is his duty under the Law to furnish: the Law on the subject being not explicit.

April 28

Informing the Governor that he was ready to deliver 2426 copies, which he thought more than were required, and asking compensation.

He is informed by Mr. Pleasants, that the Laws are worth fifty cents per copy.

## THE CHIEF AND CLERK OF THE LAND OFFICE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 1

We will take all the money advanced at the Penitentiary at 40 per cent for the period from the first and last of the term. We will furnish the mule at 20 per cent and find the land. We will give such bond and security as the honorable Board shall think proper to require.

May 2

We Luke Jackson, Deputy Sheriff for Thomas Yerby, Sheriff of Richmond county, Gerrard McKenny, Deputy Sheriff for William Starke, Sheriff of Brunswick county, Peter Jett, Sheriff of King George county, William Chewning, Sheriff of Lancaster county, and John H. Fallin, Sheriff of Newumberland county, composing one district entitled by law to elect a member to the House of Representatives of the United States, do hereby certify and make known that at an election held the twenty-first day of April one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, at the expiration of our respective counties, pursuant to law, the electors qualified to vote for members of the House of Delegates caused to be chosen one person to wit: Henry Lee, to represent the said district as a member of the House of Representatives of the United States.

Given under our hands and seals this second day of May, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

LUKE JACKSON. [Seal.]

Deputy for Thos. Yerby.

GERRARD McKENNY. [Seal.]

Deputy for Wm. S. Jett.

PETER JETT. [Seal.]

WM. CHEWNING. [Seal.]

JOHN H. FALLIN. [Seal.]

## WM. PRICE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 3,  
Land Office

Informing that the Alphabet of the Record Books of the Land Office was nearly worn out, and suggesting the propriety of having two more made of parchment for the use of the office.

May 3,  
Barnesburg

## ALLEN BARNERD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting a supply of arms for his company of Light Infantry.

Petition of Wm. Davis, J. Grammar, W. Harrison, and sundry other citizens of Petersburg for the pardon of John Cyprus, a free negro man, convicted in the District Court of Petersburg of horse-stealing and condemned to death. 1799.  
May 4,  
Petersburg

John Power recommended by the Justices of James City County as Jailor for that county, to succeed John Fenton, dec'd. May 4

THOMAS DARKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Inquiring whether his acceptance of service in the army of the United States did not disqualify him from acting as agent for the State; and what steps were to be taken respecting an execution vs. sundry persons in Berkeley, which he had delivered to the Sheriff. May 12,  
Winchester

In case of a new agent to be appointed, recommending Capt. James Singleton; claiming a share of the commission on this execution; desiring to know if property can be taken on behalf of the Commonwealth to satisfy the execution in case the money is not paid.

J. LEYBURN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for the company of Artillerists in Rockbridge county under his command. May 14

ALICE MCCLINTIC TO THE GOVERNOR.

My Pension being withheld from me the last year, induces me to request the favor of you to inform me by a few lines if it is from design or thro' a mistake, and if from the latter cause that you would have it rectifyd, which will oblige May 14,  
Bath Co.

Your humble servant.

P. S.—The List of Pensioners has come up, but my name was not on it.

A. McC.

The above-named Alice McClintic was continued on the List of Pensioners for 1797 but not for 1798. She has not been paid for either year.

## DAVID HOLMES TO THE GOVERNOR.

1799.  
May 15,  
Woodstock

I have understood that the Sheriff of Augusta county has returned Gen'l Robert Porterfield as the member elected to serve this District in the House of Representatives of the United States.

The principles on which he acted, I have been informed, were that the Sheriffs did not meet on the day assigned by law to compare the polls, and that his deputy had no right to act in this instance for him. Altho' I am well convinced that no act of the Sheriffs after an election can set it aside, yet I think it proper that you should be informed of the real state of the transactions which in this case have taken place.

On the Wednesday after the election, the Sheriffs from each county in the District, except that of Augusta, met at Staunton, conceiving that to be the day designated by law to compare the polls, it being the 8th day including the day of election; they were afterwards joined by the Deputy Sheriff of Augusta, who acted on this occasion for his principal. A certificate was made out in due form and delivered to me; another was left with the Deputy Sheriff of Augusta, who promised to transmit it to the Executive. On the next day Major David Stephenson, the High Sheriff of Augusta, came to Staunton, with an intention of meeting the Sheriffs to compare the polls. They were then dispersed, and, as I before mentioned, I have been informed he returned Gen'l Porterfield the member elected.

From the words of the Act of Assembly, it appears to be somewhat doubtful whether Wednesday or Thursday is the day intended to be designated, but I am inclined to think it is the former, because the law does not say exclusive of the day of election, and because under certain circumstances the election may be held open for more than one day, in which case the time of comparing the polls would be rendered uncertain. I am further of opinion that the Sheriffs may meet at any time within eight days of the election.

In the District of Frederick, I have been informed, the polls were compared on the 5th day. I believe there is nothing more common than for Deputy Sheriffs to attend to this business, and in doing so it must be presumed they are in their duty.

I'll take it as a favor, sir, if you'll let me know by the next post what return Major Stephenson has made, and whether the certificate of my election has come to your hands. If you should think proper to transmit to Congress a certificate of the polls from the Sheriffs who conducted the elections in the several counties, I can have them procured and forwarded to you. This I think would do away any difficulty that might arise from two returns being made.

I am, sir, &c.

BYRD GEORGE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking for a change in the terms of his contract respecting the delivery of timber for the manufactory of arms.

1799.  
May 18

ROBT. PORTERFIELD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending that arms be furnished to the companies of Captain James Allen, of the 1st Battalion of the 32nd Regiment, and Captain Alexander Herron, of the 58th Regiment, as entirely trustworthy.

May 20,  
Augusta

H'H HOLMES TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Act of Assembly concerning the Militia made at the last session, authorizing to be raised out of each Regiment a Troop of Cavalry, I have taken the liberty, at the solicitation of sundry officers, to recommend to your attention the officers of such Troop, to be annexed to the — Regiment in which they reside; those officers elected as well for their popularity as their Military qualifications, have succeeded so as already to have enlisted between 45 and 50 Troopers.

May 23,  
Winchester

The old Winchester Troop hath (I am sorry to say) lost much of its respectability, by a decline in numbers and jarring dissensions between the men and some of the officers, but I am in hopes the example which will be afforded by the proposed Troop in the other Regiment, will inspire both the officers and men of the old Troop, and create a profitable emulation.

With the co-operation of the Executive, I hope that both those Troops will soon do honor to their Corps, on whom, Sir, you will know, great reliance must be placed in the defence of our Country, which affords advantages peculiar to itself as to the operations of Cavalry—on account of the genius of our people, the extent and state of improvement of America, and the facility of procuring the horses and changing the situation of Troops with promptitude.

May I be permitted Sir, to nominate as proper persons to officer a Troop of Cavalry in Frederick County, to be raised out of the — Regiment, Ferguson Bell, Captain, Moses Payne, 1st Lieutenant, Robert Vance, 2nd Lient and William F. Simal, Cornet.

I should not have forwarded my recommendation alone, except that there is no kind of dispute as to rank or between the officers of the proposed troop and the Winchester troop, or the officers of the — Regiment.

In hopes that the commissions may be forwarded by post, I am,

D'r Sir, Your &c.

## THOS. LEE, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

1799.  
May 23

In the suit against me as agent for the Commonwealth by Bristoe's Heirs, a very necessary piece of testimony is wanting, without which the Commonwealth may possibly be cast.

I have been informed from good authority, that they have been paid by the British Government. A Mr. Wilson, my informant, who is now dead, was called on some years ago (before a board established in Loudoun to ascertain the value of the Lands and property of the Refugees from this county) to ascertain the value of this very Land, and he told me he understood they had been paid by the British Government twenty years purchase on its supposed value fixed by him. Of this, however, he was not personally acquainted. In the obligation I have thought myself under of attending to the business, I have sent a Dedimus or Commission to Loudoun once for the purpose of procuring the necessary evidence; from the time that has elapsed I fear it must have miscarried.

I presume it might be advisable for the Executive to fee some person in Loudoun if such a character can be fixed to attend to the business, or even to send a special agent at the public expense.

Any commands they may chuse to express to me on this subject shall be attended to.

I have the honor, &c.

## WM. W. GEDDY TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 23

Prays for remission of fines for not attending musters of the 39th Regiment, which he considers unlawfully assessed against him.

## MERE. JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 23

Proposing to print the Laws of Congress if desired by the Executive.

## RO. QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 23,  
Arsenal

I yesterday received a Letter from the Hon. A. McRae inclosing an order by the direction of your Excellency, for fifty stands of arms for the use of a company of Grenadiers. He is very pressing in his Letter that I should send him a better kind of arms than those usually sent to Richmond, and as the order does not particularly specify the repaired arms, I am a little at a loss what kind to send him.

I have at present declined sending him any until he executes a Bond as usual for the safe-keeping and returning the arms when required, which Bond I have now enclosed to him. By the return of Mr. Dawson, your Excellency will be so kind as to favor me with your advice on this subject.

1799.  
May 23,  
Arsenal

I have the honor, &c.

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W. BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

A payment in Tobacco has this day been made into the Treasury by Mr. Lee as agent for the State on account of rents on Land in Prince William, formerly the property of Mr. Bristoe. He is willing to undertake the selling of it, and advises that a credit until the 15th of September next should be allowed.

May 23

Permit me to submit it to the consideration of the Honorable Board.

With every sentiment of respect, &c.

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A. BARNET AND ROBT. FOX TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking that some mode be adopted for ascertaining the difference between the framing of the roof of the Penitentiary house and the plan originally agreed upon.

May 25

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RICHARD YOUNG TO THE GOVERNOR.

Complaining of unfair treatment by a Board of Officers in their recommendations to the Court for promotions in his Regiment.

May 27,  
Richmond

---

N. W. PRICE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have been informed that Capt. Phil. N. Nicholas has resigned his office as the Captain of the Richmond Republican Infantry, and also that the company have chosen Meriwether Jones, Esq., as their Captain. It is with my free consent that he should command the company and me! as the will of the majority of our company shall and will always be subscribed to by me.

May 28

I am, with respect, &c.

1799.  
May 28,  
Pendleton  
County

Ordered, that Jacob Hull be recommended to His Excellency the Governor as a proper person to be commissioned Captain to raise a company of Cavalry in the 46th Regiment in Pendleton, which is ordered to be certified.

A copy—Teste:

ZEB. DYER, C. P. C.

May 28

Ordered, that Adam Conrod and Henry Hull be recommended to his Excellency the Governor as proper persons to be commissioned Lieutenants to raise a company of Cavalry in the 46th Regiment in Pendleton. Ordered to be certified.

ZEB. DYER, C. P. C.

May 29

Commission of Daniel Henric as Surveyor of the county of Wood, conferred by the President and Professors of William and Mary College, on file.

JAS. BAYTOP TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 30,  
Richmond

Soliciting a command in one of the Regiments of Militia now under organization.

AUGUSTINE DAVIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 3,  
Richmond

Soliciting the privilege of printing for the State such a number of the Laws past at the last session of Congress as may be considered necessary for her use.

CHARLES LITTLE TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 4

Asking instructions as to the new organization of the 60th Regiment of the Militia of Fairfax, to which a portion of the Militia of Loudoun had been recently added.

SAMUEL SHEPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 4,  
Auditor's  
Office

Requesting that a special agent be sent to Philadelphia for the purpose of collecting the amount of an execution against William Stokes, of the firm of William & Charles Stokes, late of Norfolk, Va., for £190.6.3.



The commission of James Claughton as Notary Public for the District of Northumberland is on file.

1799.  
June 4

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DAVID SAUNDERS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking instructions as to the validity between two conflicting appointments of Adjutant of the 91st Regiment made by Col. Trigg and himself.

June 5,  
Bedford

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JAMES GARRARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

I enclose to your Excellency, a letter from the Kentucky Commissioners, addressed to the Commissioners on the part of Virginia, for fixing the Boundary Line between the two States. Should the time and place of meeting, meet with your approbation and that of your Commissioners, you will be so good as to give me the earliest intelligence, that I may instruct the Kentucky Commissioners to hold themselves in readiness.

June 9,  
Frankford,  
Kentucky

With perfect respect, I am, &c.

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The Commission of John Nivison as Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of the 54th Regiment, Ninth Brigade and Fourth Division of Militia is on file.

June 11

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Virginia to-wit:

At a General Court held at the Capitol in the city of Richmond, the 13th day of June, 1799.

June 13

Robert Walker, James Dunlop, jun'r, John Chalmers and Thomas Colquhoun merchants, natives of Scotland, this day came into Court and declared on oath, that they reside within and under the jurisdiction of the United States prior to the twenty ninth day of January, 1795, and have continued so to reside ever since; that they have also resided one year at least within the Commonwealth of Virginia, that they will support the Constitution of the United States, and that they do absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, State or Sovereignty whatsoever, and particularly to George the third, King of Great Britain: and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the said Robert Walker, James Dunlop, jun'r, John Chalmers and Thomas Colquhoun, during such residence have behaved themselves as men of good moral character, attached to the Constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same, they are admitted citizens of the said United States.

Copy—Teste:

WILSON ALLEN, C. G. C.

1799.  
June 15

The Commonwealth of Virginia.

To Moses Bates.

For 7226 solid yards of Foundation for the armory. Dug at  
 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per y'd. - - - - - £436.11.5  
 Cr. By Cash rece'd at sundry times (exclusive of \$181 11  
 cents for Rock work and 150 Dollars advanced in conse-  
 quence of employing more hands) 1110 Dollars 73 cents. - 333.04.0  
 £193.07.0

I certify that the above acc't is correct.

JNO. CLARKE.

June 15th. 1799.

#### JOHN ROBERTSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 20  
Bermuda  
Hundred  
and  
City Point

Returning Commissions as Notary Public and Superintendent of Quar-  
 antine at that Port. Apprehensions of yellow fever from Philadelphia.

#### THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 20  
Norfolk

I find it will be necessary to have a small boat to examine the vessels,  
 which if your Excellency and Council think with me. I will employ.  
 The officers of the United States give every assistance I could wish, but  
 they cannot find a boat. I believe it will be necessary to issue a pro-  
 clamnation for the West India Islands generally, as vessels begin to come  
 in in 12 and thirteen days passage, and if any infection should be among  
 the crew, it may be dormant a few days; and it may be proper also to  
 detain the vessels of war if they should be sickly, which without a pro-  
 clamnation I suppose cannot be done.

No case of sickness has happened yet, but the inhabitants are fearful  
 of its being brought in, and are vigilant to prevent it.

The U. S. Ships perform Quarantine at Philadelphia.

I am, &c.

June 21

It is advised that the 11th Regiment of Militia be divided so as to form  
 two distinct Regiments: each Regiment to be bounded by the former  
 Battalion district. The Regiment in the County of Randolph to be num-  
 bered 107, and the other to retain the No. 11, and it is further advised  
 that John Haymond be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of  
 the 11th Regiment, and Benjamin Robinson and Thaniel Davison be  
 appointed Majors to said Regiment.

A Statement of the Public Arms which have been issued from the Arsenal at  
the Point of Fork by order of the Executive.

1799.  
June 22

When Issued.	To Whom Issued.	Place of Residence.	Regiment.	No. Issued.
1792.				
May 24	Edw'd Holladay, to be delivered to Col. Wilson C. Nicholas.....	Norfolk .....	7	600
*June 25	Capt. Quarrier.....	City of Richmond.....	4	64
July 25	Col. Wilkerson.....	Ditto .....	19	68
1793.				
Feb'y 21	Capt. Richardson.....	Ditto .....	19	70
May 20	Capt. Massenburg, to be delivered to Miles King.....	Eliz'th City .....	68	51
Sept. 5	Capt. Elias Parker.....	Petersburg.....	39	250
" 20	Col. Wm. Nelson.....	York .....	68	150
†Oct. 10	Lieut. Kautzman.....	City of Richmond.....	19	5
" 12	" Geo. Deneale.....	Alexandria.....	60	60
" 15	" Chas. Hay.....	City of Richmond.....	19	4
" 16	" Rich'd Bowler.....	Ditto .....	19	90
" 18	Capt. Wm. Price.....	Ditto .....	19	68
	Reuben George.....	Henrico .....	33	50
1794.				
April 25	Wm. Giles.....	Ditto .....	33	72
" 26	Richard Cary.....	Warwick .....	68	72
" "	Lieut. Jacob Call.....	Prince George.....	62	72
May 19	Col. David Patterson.....	Chesterfield.....	23	144
" 29	Capt. Thos. R. Roots.....	Caroline.....	30	72
1795.				
May 14	Roger Gregory.....	Henrico .....	33	40
June 2	James Caruthers.....	Rockbridge.....	8	72
1796.				
†April 13	Warner Lewis.....	Gloucester.....	4	50
Dec. 24	John Eyre.....	Northampton .....	27	50
1798.				
Ma'h 19	— Reynolds.....	Norfolk .....	54	50
" "	— Smith.....	Ditto .....	54	50
Aug. 6	Philip N. Nicholas.....	Richmond.....	19	50
" "	Wm. Richardson.....	Richmond.....	19	50
1794.				
July 29	— Mason.....	Stafford.....	45	
" "	— Nelson.....	York.....	68	
†	Alex'r McRae.....	Petersburg.....	1	
1795.				
April 24	Francis Thornton .....	Fredericksburg.....	16	72
1797.				
July 27	Col. Jno. Breckenridge.....	Botetourt.....	48	72
	Wilson C. Nicholas.....	Albemarle.....	47	72
1798.				
Jan'y 20	Maj'r Francis Walker.....	Ditto .....	88	80
Feb'y 14	Capt. Strobia.....	Richmond City.....	19	
" "	— Holloway.....	Ditto .....	19	
" 19	Archb'd McKae.....	Powhatan.....	102	50
†Ma'h 5	— Mercer.....	Spottsylvania .....	2	50
" "	— Lewis.....	" .....	2	50
" 7	— McCreery.....	Botetourt.....	3	50
" 8	— Tinsley.....	Fluvanna .....	12	50
" 24	Corporation of Alexandria.....	Fairfax.....	60	250
" 29	Col. W. Nicholas.....	Albemarle.....	47	28

\* Artillery. † For use of Guard Boat stationed at Hood's. ‡ Artillery. § Artillery. ¶ Artillery and 20 swords. ¶ Do. and 50 Swords. a Do. and 50 Swords.

1799.  
June 22*Statement of the Public Arms—Continued.*

When Issued.	To Whom Issued.	Place of Residence.	Regiment.	No. Issued.
1798.				
July 7	Capt. Nelson.....	York.....	68	50
" 16	— Tebbs.....	Dumfries.....	36	50
* " 14				
" 21	Flank Companies of.....	Gloucester.....	21	100
	Ditto of.....	Princess Anne.....	20	50
" 22	Capt. Alex. McRae.....	Richmond City.....	19	50
Nov. 10	Fleming Payne.....	Goochland.....	38	50
	Flank Companies of.....	Accomac.....		200
	Ditto of.....	Norfolk Co.....		100
1799.				
April 17	Capt. Spears.....	Cumberland.....	17	50
" "	Capt. Thos. Meriwether.....	Louisa.....	40	50
† June 22	Capt. Jos. A. Myers.....	Richmond.		

\* 600 stands ordered from Point of Fork to Richmond. † 10 Artillery Swords.

June 22,  
In Council

It is ordered that thirty Artillery Swords be delivered to Captain Myers for the use of his company, he giving the usual bond for the safe keeping thereof and to return them when called for.

The Governor orders accordingly.

Attest:

A. BLAIR, C. C.

Capt. Coleman.

JNO. CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 22

The bricklayers having frequently complained to me that lime for the cement of the walls of the Penitentiary house was not furnished in sufficient quantity for a rapid progress of the brick work of that building, in consequence of which the principal bricklayer has discharged several of his workmen, I am induced to suggest the propriety of its being purchased (if it should continue to be the case), as I suppose it may be purchased on as cheap terms as the contractors are to furnish it at.

In order to keep a supply of bar iron for the blacksmiths now employed in making the grates for the windows of the Penitentiary house, I have made enquiry at all the stores in Richmond and Manchester from which a supply has hitherto been afforded, and from information given me by some merchants, a considerable quantity is hourly expected (it being on board vessels now in the River), I am in hopes that a supply may be had of equal quality with that furnished by Mr. Breckinridge and that which I have purchased is on cheaper terms than Mr. Breckinridge's iron is furnished at. If, however, Mr. Breckinridge sends a supply of iron, I suppose we must receive it in conformity with the contract between him and the Executive.

CREED TAYLOR TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF KENTUCKY.

The distance Gen. Martin and Mr. Stuart live apart, and from me, almost precludes the possibility of a joint communication from us with respect to the boundary line between your State and this. But as a certain conveyance now offers, I deem it my duty, tho' alone, to state to you, that notwithstanding the distance we are from each other, yet professional or public duties have brought us together twice or three times since we had the pleasure of being with you; and we have never failed to write you on this subject; and I do not recollect at this time that any answer to either of our letters has been received—perhaps they may have miscarried—and I am without copies, but I believe their general tenor have been to assure you of our readiness to act on this subject whenever it would be your pleasure to notify us of any time and place. And of this I beg leave again to assure you, and I can with truth add that I know it to be the disposition of my colleagues. As I deem it of importance to the two States to have a speedy and friendly adjustment of this business, and as I am sure it is not the wish of Kentucky to delay it, I will conclude by repeating that we are ready to meet when and where you may think most proper.

1799.  
June 23,  
Cumberland  
County

I am, &c.

LEXINGTON, *May 16th, 1799.*

GENTLEMEN:

Although you mention in your Letter dated at Richmond, 10th January, 1799, that you had written several Letters to us, yet we can assure you that none of those letters have reached us.

June 23

At the session of the Kentucky Legislature in 1796, when the proceedings of the Commissioners were laid before them, they thought proper to suspend any further operations in the business of the Boundary Line, until at the last Fall session they authorized the Governor (as we believe, not having the resolution of the Assembly on this subject before us) to take such steps for the final adjustment of the line as he should deem most expedient. This has been the reason why you have not heard from us before.

The Governor has lately laid before us your Letter and that of Governor Wood, and if he thinks proper to sanction our meeting, you again will inform the Executive of Virginia thereof. Should that be his determination, we are ready and indeed desirous to bring the business to a close, and will meet you at the Forks of the Big Sandy on the 1st day of October next. We have consulted together on the subject of the time and place of meeting, and have found the 1st of October next to be the most suitable and convenient for us, and the proposed place the most

1799.  
June 23

You will be pleased to communicate to us your sentiments respecting this arrangement, and if you have no objection to it, and the Governor of this State shall authorize our meeting, we shall endeavor to be punctual in our attendance.

We are your, &c.,

JOHN COBURN,  
ROBERT JOHNSON,  
B. THURSTON.

To the Commissioners of Virginia for ascertaining the Boundary Line with that State and Kentucky.

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JOHN ROBERTSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 23,  
Bermuda  
Hundreds

Asking to be instructed whether it is compatible with the Law of Virginia for him to hold the commission of Superintendent of Quarantine, Notary Public, and Revenue Officer at the same time.

June 30

Captain Kerr, Light Infantry Company, of Fredericksburg, applies for 50 stand of arms for his company.

---

JAMES GARRARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 30,  
Frankford

I wrote you last fall an answer to your letter, inclosing one from the Judges of Northampton District to your Excellency, concerning the unlawful seizure and sale of Jack Cox, the son of Jemima Cox, of Lancaster county, containing all the information I had been able to collect on that subject.

I now inform you, a few days ago I received such information of the boy as removes all doubt respecting the theft and sale to Bryant Sloane. The boy (Jack Cox) is now in the possession of a David McClellen, of Baird's Town, Nelson county, who is desirous the necessary proofs may be brought forward, that the boy may be restored to his liberty and his friends.

I am, &c.

---

R. QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 1,  
Arsenal

Inclosed your Excellency will find the usual Return of Arms, &c., at the Arsenal.

The other papers, consisting of the Pay Rolls, accounts current, and

the half yearly return for Clothing, will likewise be presented to you after passing the customary examination. Mr. Wills, having at length furnished the Timbers as stipulated by contract for the Stockade Fort, now presents his account for payment.

1799.  
July 1,  
Arsenal

I am sorry to announce to you the entire destruction of our machinery for grinding Bayonets. About ten days ago there fell at this place a most astonishing flood of Rain, which has swept away the Dam, the House, and almost every part of the machinery. Your Excellency will from the present return of the state of the Arms discover the number of Bayonets now to grind, and will be enabled to determine respecting the expediency of going to the expense of renewing this work. If it should be thought inexpedient to rebuild this machinery, it may not be amiss to dispose of such parts of the old works as may answer for mill purposes.

I have the honor, &c.

*A Quarterly Return of Arms and Military Stores at the Arsenal near the Point of Fork, July 1st, 1799.*

1 16-Inch Brass Mortar, 1 Brass 6-pounder, 7045 muskets in good order, 726 muskets with unground Bayonets, 900 Artillery and Grenadier Swords, 7 Barrels of Gun Powder, 40 Pigs of Lead, 180 Canister Shot, 260 Cannon shot from 4 to 6 Pounders, 30 Rheams of Cartridge Paper, 18 Barrels of Flints, 1650 Pounds of Ball and Buck Shot.

July 1

This Quarter's work:

403 Muskets cleaned and put away; 72 Bayonets ground.

Since last Return 50 Stand of repaired Arms have been delivered to Capt. Spears, of Cumberland, and 50 Ditto to Capt. Alex'r McRae.

Ro. QUARLES, Sup't.

LAWRENCE BROOKE, JOHN T. BROOKE, AND MANY CITIZENS OF SPOTSYLVANIA TO THE GOVERNOR.

Praying for the pardon of a negro man named John, the property of Fontaine Maury, convicted in the Court of Spotsylvania of arson on the 4th day of June, 1799, and condemned to be hanged on the fifth day of July, 1799.

July 1

Al. McCrae's bond with security for twelve hundred and fifty-five dollars, for the safe keeping and return of fifty stand of arms for the use of a Company of Grenadiers of the Nineteenth regiment of Militia on file.

July 3

## SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

1799.  
July 10

In conformity with the enclosed direction on the back of a letter addressed to you by Capt. Meriwether Jones, I have the honor to report that Captain Philip N. Nicholas stands charged in a book kept for that purpose, with fifty stands of public arms; for the safe keeping and return of which in good order when thereto required by the Executive, he and his subalterns have given bond in the penalty of six hundred and seven dollars, which bond is filed in this office.

Of the arms above mentioned, there are returned and now in the care of the Keeper of the Capitol, 46 Muskets, 45 Bayonets and 43 Cartridge Boxes.

The muskets (one or two excepted) are so entirely out of repair, as to be incapable (in the hands of Militia) of being made fit for use, from essential defects in the locks &c. They are also very rusty, and appear to have been wholly neglected since they were issued.

I have the honor, &c.

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July 10 Meri. Jones's application for arms for a company which he is raising.

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## THEODOSIUS HANSFORD TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 11

Setting forth that in the discharge of his duties as Escheator of King George county he held an Inquisition upon a tract of Land lying on the branches of Paspatowzy Creek, in said county, formerly claimed by Orr & Greeleese, British subjects, which had been escheated by the Sheriff, but never sold; that in pursuance of the certificate of the Clerk of the District Court at Fredericksburg, and by direction of Law, your Petitioner proceeded to sell the said Land on the 20th day of November, 1798. That in the execution of this sale, certain expenses were necessarily incurred, an account of which was presented to the Auditor. That the Law which required this sale, made no provision for the expenses thus incurred, and therefore the Auditor was unwilling to give a warrant for that purpose. The Petitioner therefore seeks relief at the hands of the Board by a warrant out of the Contingent Fund.

## ALEXANDER BUCHANAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 12

Claiming his right to the High Sheriffalty of Wythe county as the successor of William Thompson, of which he was deprived by the decision of the Court of Wythe county.



BENJAMIN WILSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending Sam'l Shinn (now Lieutenant in Robinson's company) for Captain, John Righter for Lieutenant, and Thomas Harbert to continue Ensign; Obedia Davisson for Lieutenant, and Benj'n Robinson, Jr., to continue Ensign.

1799.  
July 12,  
Harrison Co.

At a Court held for Pittsylvania county, the 15th day of July, 1799, present: John Wilson, Joshua Stone, William Dix, Vincent Shelton, Chrispin Shelton, William Clarke, Armistead Shelton, Moses Hutchings, James M. Williams, Robert Divine and Robert Payne.

July 15,  
Pittsylvania  
County

Setting forth their objections to a compliance with the wishes of the General Assembly, to have certain pamphlets containing their resolutions on the constitutionality of the Alien and Sedition Laws, passed by Congress, and an address by the Assembly to the people of the State, &c., distributed to the people of their county; with the determination to have the said papers placed in the office of the clerk of the county for the perusal of all who desired it, and subject to the control of the Executive. That copies of their proceedings be sent to the Governor and to two of the Printers of the Commonwealth.

It is ordered that a circular Letter be written by the Adjutant General to all officers who have received Arms belonging to the Public, except such as have made satisfactory returns under the advice of the 7th of July, 1798, requiring all such officers to re-deliver the Arms to the Commandant of the Regiment to which they respectively belong, unless they do on or before the first day of September next, make and return to the office of the Adjutant General a report of the said Arms, conformably with the said advice. And that a Circular Letter be also written to the Commandants of the said Regiments to receive all such Arms, and at the time of their reception to cause a critical examination to be made of their state of repair by a Field Officer, which report is to be forwarded to the office of the Adjutant-General as soon as they shall be delivered and inspected.

July 16,  
In Council

And the Governor orders accordingly.

Attest:

A. BLAIR, C. C.

SAMUEL SHEPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that the property of John Beale, Sheriff of Botetourt, taken for the Tax of '97, cannot be sold for want of bidders, and requesting its removal to some place where a sale can be effected.

July 16,  
Auditor's  
Office

1799.  
July 17      The Bond of Joseph A. Myers and security for the safe keeping and re-delivery of ten Artillery Swords for the use of a company of Artillery of the Fourth Regiment of Militia is on file.

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SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 17      Forwarding reports of Militia Officers as to the number and condition of public Arms issued to their commands in response to the order of Council of July 16th, 1799.

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July 23      Certificate of Rich'd Allen, Major of 2nd Battalion, 33rd Regiment, of the number and condition of public Arms issued to the company of Capt. Roger Gregory, 2nd Batt'n, 2nd Regiment; also of Capt. Reuben George.

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July 25      The Bond of John Wilson, Thos. Barnett, and Louis Roussell for the safe keeping and return of 68 stand of arms when demanded, for which Nathaniel Wilkinson, County Lieutenant of Henrico, has given his receipt.

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ARCH'D STUART TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 25,  
Staunton      Expressing his satisfaction with the time and place of rendezvous, suggested by the Kentucky Commissioners, for recommencing the work of the Boundary line and the hope of its speedy termination. Suggesting that the former practice of the Governor for supplying the party with funds be repeated.

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JAMES SINGLETON TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 27      Soliciting appointment as agent for collecting arrears of taxes in the Brigade District of which Frederick Co. forms part, in the room of Thos. Parker, resigned.

---

JACOB CALL TO SAM'L COLEMAN.

July 28      Informing him that the arms in the possession of the Company of Light Infantry of which he was Lieutenant, went with that company under the command of Capt. Joseph Weisiger. At the death of Capt. Weisiger, the care of the arms was transferred to Lieut. Alexander Taylor, Jn'r.

WM. NELSON TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Reports that the arms when delivered to him were in bad order as to Bayonets and Locks.

1799.  
July 28,  
York

JOSEPH MARTIN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Expressing his satisfaction with the time and place of meeting, proposed by the other Commissioners for fixing the Boundary Line with Kentucky.

July 31

THOMAS NELSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Replying to the order of Council of July 16th, for a report of number and condition of arms furnished his company: stating that notwithstanding an order of Council made in July, 1794, that his company should be furnished with arms, no arms had as yet been furnished altho' repeatedly applied for, and his company had at private expense furnished their uniforms.

July 31,  
Yorktown

Buckingham County:

Benjamin Morris, David Coupland and Samuel Allen recommended by the Court to the Governor, one of whom as a proper person to execute the office of Sheriff of this county for the ensuing year.

July 31

A protest against the appointment of Benj'n Morris was presented by David Coupland.

Numerous certificates as to the good character and faithful services as a Justice, of Benjamin Morris are on file.

G. DENEALE TO SAM'L COLEMAN.

Forwarding the report of Major Charles Turner, 1st Battalion, 106 Reg't. as to the number and condition of public arms issued to said Regiment.

July 31,  
Alexandria

THOS. R. ROOTES TO SAM'L COLEMAN.

Response to the order of Council of July 17th on Report of number and condition of arms issued to his command.

August 1,  
Fredericks-  
burg

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 SAM'L COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

1799.  
August 3,  
Council  
Office      Report concerning the condition of the Cartridge boxes stored in the Capitol delivered by Mr. Greaves.

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## THE TREASURER TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 3      Reports the Balance of Cash in the Treasury on the 1st Inst. was four thousand seven hundred and sixty dollars and sixty-five cents.

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## LITTLETON SAVAGE, PETER BODOIN, ISAAC SMITH, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COURT OF NORTHAMPTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 3      Recommend to mercy a negro man slave named Abraham, the property of James Coris Hicks, convicted in the court of Northampton on the 17th day of July, 1799, of committing a rape on the body of Sally Sturgis, for which he was condemned to suffer death.

---

## RICH'D CARY TO SAM'L COLEMAN.

August 3,  
Warwick Co.      Return of number and condition of arms issued to him as Capt. first Battalion, 68th Reg't, for Warwick County, made July 20th, 1798, is on file.

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## JOHN EYRE TO SAM'L COLEMAN.

August 4      Report of arms delivered to the company of Northampton Infantry, commanded by him, on file.

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## PH. NOR. NICHOLAS TO SAM'L COLEMAN.

August 5      Report of arms received for the use of his company in reply to order of council of 17th of July, 1799.

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## G. DENEALE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 6,  
Alexandria      Asking that a portion of the fines imposed upon the 60th Reg't, collected in Alexandria, be appropriated to the purchase of a stand of colours and some Instruments of Music for the 106th Regiment.

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SAM'L CARY TO SAM'L COLEMAN.

Response to circular Letter of Council of July 17th in respect of public arms, refers to Major Thos. Lewis, commandant of artillery, for the required information. 1799.  
August 9,  
Gloucester  
Town

---

THOS. MINOR TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Return of number and condition of public arms issued to the Companies of Captains Thornton and Mercer. August 10,  
Fredericks-  
burg

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JAMES BAILEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Praying for remission of a fine of twenty Dollars imposed on him for playing at Faro while serving as a Grand Juror in the Town of Staunton. August 10,  
Staunton

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CHARLES CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Praying for a remission of a fine imposed on him by a Court Martial for refusing to obey an order commanding him to attend a muster of the Battalion to which he belonged, at Francis Lockett's, on the 8th day of May, 1795, with the company under his command, giving his reasons therefor. August 17,  
Chesterfield

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DAVID PATTERSON TO SAM'L COLEMAN.

In response to circular of Council of July 17th refers to report to be made by Major Branch of the arms issued to the Light Infantry and Grenadiers of the 23rd Regiment. August 17

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ALEXANDER BUCHANAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asserting his claim to the Sherifalty of Wythe county filled by Andrew Thompson. August 18

---

THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting pay for Town Sergeant of Norfolk and others. August 19

1799. At a Court held for Washington county the 20th of August, 1799:  
 August 20 Ordered that James Bradley be recommended to James Wood, Esq., Governor of the Commonwealth, as a fit person for Major of the 1st Battalion of the 105th Regiment of the Militia of Virginia.

Copy—Teste:

D. CAMPBELL, D. C.

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STEPHEN WRIGHT TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

August 20 Forwarding return of arms of the companies of Capt. Magnean and others, of the 7th Reg't, and William Marley and others, of the 95th Reg't, as made under order of July 9th, 1798.

---

J. CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 20, Recommending extra pay to Moses Bates for digging a part of the  
 Richmond foundation for the manufactory of arms, which proved unusually hard ground.

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ARCHIBALD RITCHIE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 21, Applies for a loan of fifty stand of arms for the use of his company  
 Essex Co. of Second Battalion, Sixth Regiment.

---

August 21 A deposition of Francis Kincannon concerning an expedition of Col. Arthur Campbell against the Cherokee Nation of Indians in the year 1790:

That Robert Campbell, of that command, with a party of volunteers, started from the Indian Town called Chota to burn another Town called Cluthower, which they accomplished, and on their return had a severe fight with a large body of Indians in a narrow pass. That after this Robert Campbell proposed to head a party to burn Telassee, which Col. A. Campbell opposed, preferring to destroy Hiwassee, to prevent the enemy from taking off their corn.

---

JOS. MARTIN TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 22 Expressing his readiness to join the other Boundary Line Commissioners at the time and place agreeable to them.

## DEPOSITION OF HENRY ST. JOHN DIXON.

At the request of Col. Robert Campbell, I do certify that on the 20th inst. I was present in Court and acted as an attorney for the said Campbell in making a motion to admit the Justice of the Peace's certificate of his taking the oaths required by Law for a Militia Officer to record, which was opposed on the ground that it would contravene an order of July Court, wherein the said Campbell was interdicted from qualifying.

1799.  
August 22,  
Abingdon

It was proposed then to the Court to admit testimony to prove a memorial sent by the said Campbell to the Executive, with a certificate and other statements, were strictly true and founded on facts. This the Court granted, and the following persons were sworn to give evidence: Capt. James Keys, James Bradley, David Lowry, and Andrew Russell, Esquires.

Capt. Keys deposed that at several different times he was applied to (he thinks as many as three times) by Elijah Gillenwater, another Justice, on the subject of a recommendation for a Colonel in the 105th Regiment, and was asked by the said Gillenwater if he would not vote for Mr. Robert Preston to be Colo., which was as repeatedly denied. That on the evening of the day when the last application was made, Mr. Preston himself addressed him on the same subject, and told him he was about to offer for the command. Capt. Keys further said that, being so often spoken to on the subject in that manner, he conceived it an insult. He determined to oppose the said Preston by offering himself, and at the same time told Mr. Preston he should oppose him. He also said that had he not been a candidate he would have voted for Robert Campbell to command the 105th Regiment.

John Huston, a justice of the peace, was then called and qualified, who deposed that he was several times spoken to on the subject of a recommendation of a Colo. for the 105th Reg't by Elijah Gillenwater, and was asked by him if he would not vote for Robert Preston, at the same time urging that Robert Preston was more in the centre of the said Reg't. Mr. Huston said he thought his object was to influence his vote in favour of Mr. Preston.

Mr. James Bradley then deposed that he had been spoken to on the same subject and asked if he would not vote for Mr. Preston by E. Gillenwater.

Mr. Lowry was then asked if he had have voted, who would have been the person to whom he would have given his vote. He said to Robert Campbell, because he thought him entitled to the command by seniority.

Andrew Russell then deposed that Robert Preston had told him he had admitted E. Gillenwater to privileges which he did not admit his other Deputies to, with one or two exceptions.

Given under my hand at Abingdon this 22nd day of August in the year 1799.

## ROBERT CAMPBELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

1799.  
August 22,  
Abingdon

On receiving your commission giving me the command of the 105th Regiment of the Militia of this State, I took an opportunity to qualify to the same before a Justice of the Peace.

Shortly afterwards, the Court of this County took up the matter of dispute between me and Mr. Robert Preston, and after some time spent, and considerable warmth took place, they entered an order dated the 16th of July interdicting my taking the oaths required by law; but this being already done, it placed me in a situation, in a legal point of view, that my opposers did not expect. However, I thought it most prudent to delay offering the certificate of my qualification to be recorded, that the members might get cool, and facts be made public that would show that my memorial and the papers accompanying it, were strictly true, and not a misrepresentation with a view to deceive the Executive of the State.

On the first day of the succeeding Court, I offered the certificate of my taking the oath required by Law to be recorded. This occasioned a number of witnesses to be examined, and brought on a long debate from the Bar, which concluded with the refusal of admitting the certificate to be recorded, as will appear by the enclosed paper. (A copy from the Order Book of the Court.)

I inclose a recommendation of the Court for a Major to fill up the vacancy in the first Battalion of the 105th Regiment. Also several certificates explanatory of the proceedings in our Court.

The order of Court of the 16th of July seems to hold out that what the Colonel of the 70th Regiment certified in the month of May last was *false*.

I now inclose some papers which may serve as evidence that what he stated was true.

I am, Sir, &c.

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August 24      Receipt of E. Harris, Q. Master in 102 Reg't, 4th Brigade and first Division, from a company of Light Infantry for 46 Muskets, 42 Bayonets, and 36 Cartouch Boxes with shoulder straps, on file.

## NAT. SHEPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 24      Mr. Berkeley left Town on the 21st inst. for the back country; previous to which he requested me to ascertain the amount of Cash which might remain in the Treasury on this day, and inform you thereof.

I accordingly beg leave to state to you that there is remaining the sum



of four thousand four hundred and fifty-eight Dollars and thirty-one cents, of which one thousand dollars are appropriated by your direction to the payment of the Commissioners for ascertaining the boundary line between this State and the State of Kentucky.

1799.  
August 24

I am, &c.

At the request of Col. Robert Campbell, I hereby certify that he served as a subaltern officer in my company of Militia on the Expedition into South Carolina the fall of 1780. That at the Battle of King's Mountain, as I understood, he was ordered by one of the Commanders to a Different part of the mountain from where I was, and being early wounded in the action, the command of the company devolved on the subalterns, therefore can say nothing of the engagement; but from the time we started on the Tour until we returned, he behaved himself as a good officer, and to my own knowledge he was often called upon when it was not his turn. The Commander's motive for calling him so, I never understood.

August 24

Given under my hand this 24th of Aug., 1799.

JAMES DYSART.

Attest: SAM'L WEEK.

WALT. JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Remonstrating against the nomination of a Sheriff for Northumberland in the rotation to which he considered himself entitled by seniority.

August 24

CHARLES LITTLE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Report concerning the public Arms issued to Col. Deneal, of the 60th Regiment of Militia.

August 25

JOHN KOONTZ TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have got a compleat company of Artillery, superior to any in the Regiment. I cast two 3-pounders myself, and have both mounted; they are handsome and good. But I am sorry to see other companies in the Regiment so backward. Attribute it altogether to the want of field officers to go and see the different companies and give encouragement.

August 26,  
Harrison-  
burg

Col. Preston is promoted to General Major, which by being elected a member of Council is removed from us, and Major Curry is removed to the Northwestern Territory, so that we have not a field officer in the Regiment.

1799.  
August 26,  
Harrison-  
burg

As the Regiment is suffering for want of field officers, I beg leave to submit it to your consideration whether it would not be to the advantage of the Regiment for some promotions to take place.

I am, &c.

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THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 27,  
Norfolk

I will thank your Excellency to have Mr. James Boyce credited with four hundred dollars on acc't of his collection as Sergeant of Norfolk Borough, which please to have charged to acc't of Quarantine. This sum will, I hope be sufficient for the season to pay charges here, of which I shall render you an acc't.

I am, &c.

---

JOHN STEWART TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 27,  
Greenbrier  
County

Transmitting a copy of the proceedings of the Court of Greenbrier county, investigating the charges exhibited against John Hutchinson, John Rodgers, and William McClurg, commissioners for assessing Lands in said county.

The Court expresses its acknowledgments to the Governor for his promise to lay its proceedings officially before the next General Assembly, and likewise their desire to obtain a copy, by post, of such action as the honorable Council shall see proper to take in the premises.

He takes leave furthermore to say that, in consequence of the late division of the county, and of the militia thereof, it is the desire of both Major Renick and himself to retire from active service therein.

---

JOHN MAYO, ALEXANDER McRAE, AND JOHN GUERRANT TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 27

Report as a committee of the Council to examine the progress and quality of the masonry done at the public manufactory of Arms.

Represent that very little of the work is done which by the contract should have been completed, and that much of the wall is not perpendicular or straight.

That in the foundation of the East wall of a wing, a very gross deception attempted. The stone is in many places so soft and rotten as to be broken in pieces by the stamping of a man's foot, entirely insufficient to sustain the weight designed to be put upon it, therefore advise that this portion of the wall be taken down and rebuilt of hard well burnt brick.

WM. NELSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Transmitting a partial list of arms and accoutrements and their condition in the possession of the 68th Regiment of Militia.

1799.  
August 31

The Depositions of J. Stephenson, A. Waggener and others, are on file setting forth, that at a Court for Berkeley County held on the 29th of August, 1799: fifteen Justices being present, the following gentlemen were unanimously nominated as proper persons to be recommended to the Executive for additions to the Justices of the Peace for said County.

August 31,  
Berkeley Co.

The Magistrates who made the nominations, deeming it important to have the concurrence of a number of others who were known to be in the Town on that day, sent the Sheriff to request their attendance at the Court, who personally conveyed to them the wishes of the Court, but failed to induce their presence.

NAT. SHEPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

The whole balance of cash remaining in the Treasury on this day, is three thousand four hundred and twelve dollars and twenty-three cents, which I suppose it is necessary I should make known to you.

August 31

Your ob't serv't.

G. K. TAYLOR, E. CARRINGTON, AND J. GIBBON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending S. Leonard as Health Officer at City Point.

August 31,  
Petersburg

The memorial of John Hunter, Wm. Alexander, Wm. Riddle, Chas. Orrick, Geo. Porterfield, Nicholas Orrick, Wm. Porterfield, James Wilson, James Anderson, Jas. Campbell, A. Waggener and other Justices, members of the Court of Berkeley County.

Sept. 1,  
Berkeley Co.

To the Governor and Council respectfully sheweth: That the majority of the Court being convinced that the western portion of the county has long suffered much inconvenience for the want of a sufficient number of Magistrates, did at the session on the 29th of August last, nominate three gentlemen in that vicinity, to be recommended for the commission of the peace.

That a minority of the court, together with the Clerk, immediately saw fit to interpose obstacles to the action of the majority, with the purpose

1790.  
Sept. 1,  
Berkeley Co. of defeating the commission of the gentlemen nominated; whereupon, the court has deputed one of their number to appear before the Executive, for the purpose of laying before them all the facts connected with the controversy, in order to obtain their judgment on the case.

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THOS. BUCKNER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 6,  
Gloucester Applying for appointment as Superintendent of Arsenal.

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ALEXANDER QUARRIER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 7,  
Richmond Stating efforts to contract for Shingles for the roofs of the public buildings.  
Enclosing copy of contract with Geo. Capron, of Deep Creek, for seventy thousand Juniper Shingles, deliverable at Rocket's Landing before the 4th day of November next, at Sixteen Dollars per thousand.

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JOHN LEWIS TO SAM'L COLEMAN.

Sept. 8,  
Gloucester County Report of number and condition of arms in possession of company of Artillery annexed to 14th Brigade, 4th Regiment, 4th Division.

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A. BARRET'S PROPOSITION TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 9,  
Richmond Proposition for shingling the roofs of the Penitentiary building. He will dress the shingles—viz., draw and joint and square them, and shingle the roofs, for four dollars per square; and for all vallies and hips, one shilling and three pence per foot running measure.

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Sept. 12 James Singleton's Bond as agent for collecting arrears of Taxes in Brigade District, including Frederick and Berkeley, with Joseph Tedball as security, on file.

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J. CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 14 Considers A. Barret's proposal for roofing the Penitentiary house (in the rough condition of the shingles furnished) a reasonable one.

HOME & WHEELER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Propose to manufacture arms at their factory in Culpeper. One thousand stand in fifteen months from date of contract on Cook's plan, the gun and Bayonet compleat at fifteen Dollars, equal to patern furnished, with the American Eagle engraved on the plate of the lock.

1799.  
Sept. 24.  
Culpeper Co.

AMOS ALEXANDER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking for as many copies of the revised code as can be spared for the use of the authorities of Alexandria.

Sept. 28.  
Alexandria

CHARLES WILLIAMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting the appointment of Master Armourer in the new Armory at Richmond, and forwarding certificates of qualifications.

Oct. 1,  
Harper's  
Ferry

Ro. QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding the proposals of two parties for furnishing Rations and Spirits to the Arsenal at Point of Fork for the ensuing year—requesting the Executive to choose between them.

Oct. 1,  
Columbia

HENRY HIOST TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that in consequence of the resignation of the Attorney-General, he is desirous of instructions as to a judgment lately obtained by the Commonwealth vs. Wm. Aitcheson in the Borough Court of Norfolk.

Oct. 7,  
Norfolk

JOHN DAWSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking that the permission to act as a sutler for the Arsenal at Point of Fork which he had last year, may be again extended under the same restrictions.

Oct. 11

Ro. QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

You will have received the usual Quarterly Return of Arms and Military Stores at the Arsenal.

Oct. 11,  
Arsenal

1799.  
Oct. 11,  
Arsenal

Since closing the report I have sent for and received the Arms, &c., delivered to Capt. Ar. McRea, and by him deposited with Mr. Francis E. Harris, Quartermaster to the 102nd Reg't of Militia. The Arms, &c., received are as follows: 47 Muskets, 45 Bayonets, and 39 Cartridge boxes, in which, on a cursory view, I find the following defects, viz: Two Muskets broken off at the Breach, 1 Guard lost, two tumble pins do., 1 lock and lock pin do., 2 side plates and 4 side pins do., 4 Cartridge Box Belts, and 18 Pickers and Brushes also lost.

By order of the Executive, there were issued some time past 50 stand of arms to Capt. John Tinsley, of the county of Fluvanna, for the use of his company. He is now promoted to the command of a Battalion, and I am now informed that they are in a wretched state of abuse.

With the permission of the Executive, I will have them brought to the Arsenal, repaired, and put away.

Your Excellency will receive the Pay Rolls, &c., for the present quarter after they have been duly examined, and as this is the season at which the Superintendent wishes to purchase winter clothing for the Guard, it will be expedient that about two hundred dollars be ordered on account.

I have the honor, &c.

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ROBERT POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 17,  
Richmond

Altho' the agents for Mr. Swan did not accede to the proposal made for the 4,000 stand of arms, they have since authorized me to contract for them, or for those only that have arrived at this place, as may be most agreeable to you.

If you are disposed to purchase, please to inform me the highest price you will give.

I have the honor, &c.

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DUMFRIES DISTRICT COURT, *10th of October, 1799.*

Oct. 18,  
Dumfries

Ordered, that the Keeper of the Public Jail of this District do certify to the Executive the escape of Matthew Anderson, who stands indicted for horse-stealing, specifying the time and manner of his escape, together with a description of his person.

A copy—Teste:

J. LAWSON, C. D. C.

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JNO. CLARKE TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Oct. 19

Mr. Bates, in order to drain the water from the foundations of the Trip-hammer Forges, has cut, or is now cutting, two long and very deep

trenches, which are more difficult than the ordinary digging. He therefore requests that two or three referees may be appointed to view the work and decide upon the additional payment which he thinks himself entitled to.

1799.  
Oct. 19

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MORDECAI COOKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking for commissions for Officers of the 21st Regiment of Militia as follows:

Oct. 20,  
Gloucester

William Robins in the room of Thomas Whiting, Dead, Richard Tillage in the room of Joseph Cluverius promoted. Peter Wiatt in the room of Francis S. Stubbs, promoted, Charles Grymes in the room of Richard Tillage, promoted, William P. Byrd, in the room of William Robins, promoted.

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ROBERT POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have been honored with your favor of this date and note the contents.

Oct. 21,  
Richmond

The lowest price I am authorized to take for the 4,000 stand of arms is eleven dollars, the stand complete, to be paid for as they arrive, which I hope will be thought sufficiently low, when compared with the price Mr. Swan was to have received if this had answered to the sample.

I have the honor, &c.

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At a court of Oyer and Terminer held for the county of Southampton at the court-house of said county on the 25th day of October, 1799, for the trial of Sam, a negro man slave belonging, or supposed to belong to Joshua Butte of the county of Warren in the State of Georgia, charged with conspiring, making insurrection, and rebelling against his lawful master, and of assaulting and murdering the said Joshua Butte and one Harris Spiers, on the high road leading from Broadwater to Jarusalem, on the evening of the 15th instant.

Oct. 25

Present: Benjamin Blunt, Edmund Tyler, Robert Goodwyn, James Wiellar, Jesse Browne, Sam'l Calver, Charles Briggs and Daniel Bulls, Gent'n.

The court being thus constituted, the prisoner was set to the bar by the Sheriff of this county, to whose custody he had been heretofore committed, and charged with the insurrection, rebellion and murder aforesaid to which he plead not guilty: whereupon divers witnesses being examined, and the prisoner by counsel heard in his defense, the court on consideration thereof, and the circumstances of the case, are of opinion that the

1799.  
Oct. 25

prisoner is guilty of the assault and murder aforesaid, and being asked if he had anything to say why the court should not proceed to pronounce sentence of death, he said he had nothing but what had already been said.

Therefore it is considered by the court, that the s'd slave Sam, be taken to the Jail from whence he came, and from thence on the 25th day of November next to the place of Execution, and there between the hours of one and three o'clock in the afternoon, be hung by the neck until he is dead, and it is said to the Sheriff of this County that he cause this sentence to be duly put in execution.

Signed,

BENJAMIN BLUNT.

Teste:

SAM'L KELSO, Cl'k.

The Court now here value the said slave Sam to two hundred and sixty dollars.

On the same day similar proceedings were had by the same court for the trial of Isaac and Jerry, belonging the said Harris Speirs of the county of Columbia, in the state of Georgia, and of Isaac, otherwise called Hatter Isaac, belonging to Joshua Butte, of the county of Warren, in the state of Georgia, for participating in the insurrection, rebellion against, and murder of the said Speirs and Butte, for which the said negroes were all condemned and executed.

Memo. Whereas it appears to the Court of Oyer and Terminer, from sufficient information, that the slaves Sam, Isaac, Hatter Isaac and Jerry this day condemned by the sentence of this Court, were purchased by Benjamin Drew and Wm. Boykin in the State of Maryland, to-wit: Sam by Wm. Boykin, and the other three by Benjamin Drew, and imported into this State within three months last past—that the said Sam was sold by Wm. Boykin and the other three by Benjamin Drew to Harris Speirs and Joshua Butte, citizens of the State of Georgia, who knowing the said slaves were so imported—that Speirs and Butte were conveying these slaves with many others, thro' this County on their way to Georgia or some of the Southern States when the murder was committed, and this Court conceiving that such importation and sale of slaves are contrary to the spirit and meaning of the existing laws of this State, direct and order that the circumstances aforesaid be represented and certified to the Executive of this State.

Signed,

BENJAMIN BLUNT.

Attest:

SAM'L KELSO, C. S. C.



WILLIAM WILSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Inclosed is a certificate of Mr. Shield's failure to give bond for the collection of the Taxes, which it is my duty to forward.

1799.  
Oct. 26,  
Portsmouth

On Monday last, Mr. Shield produced his commission and informed the court he would accept it and qualify accordingly, but as the collection of the Taxes was a troublesome and unprofitable part of the office, he was unwilling to perform it, and would not bind himself to do so unless the Court should be of opinion that the office of Sheriff and collector of the Taxes are inseparable.

This was the question before the Court. They decided that the law does admit a sheriff in office without an obligation to collect the Taxes, and he was admitted in this manner. Mr. Shield, at whose request the above remarks are made, was and says he is yet ready to give a bond for the collection of the Revenue of 1799 if your opinion is different from that of the Court.

ELISHA C. DICK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that in obedience to his proclamation for the observance of quarantine on the 10th day of July last, he had established it and continued it till the 10th Inst.

Oct. 26,  
Alexandria

Capt. Patterson has been employed with his hands at one guinea a day.

Some vessels from Philadelphia have performed a probationary quarantine owing to the shortness of the voyage. The Captain of the Watch had been discharged on the 10th Inst., promising continued watchfulness by himself; sending his claim for services at £40.

JOS. STEVE, GRIFFIN TAYLOR, AND JAS. CHIPLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting a pardon for Elisha Johnson, convicted in the District Court at Winchester of Horse-stealing and condemned to be hanged.

Oct. 26

RO. QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding the request of W. Weaver for an advance of cash to enable him to lay in his winter's supply of provisions for the Arsenal hands.

Oct. 28,  
Columbia

## Berkeley, Sct.—October Court:

1799.  
Oct. 28

Ordered, that John Vance be recommended to the Executive as a proper person to be appointed Captain of a Musquetry Company in the First Battalion of the 67th Regiment of Militia, in the room of George Porterfield, resigned; John Myers as Lieutenant, in the room of the said Vance, promoted; and John Vault as Ensign, in the room of said Myers, promoted.

Ordered, that Samuel Blackmore be recommended to the Executive as a proper person to be appointed Captain of a Musquetry Company annexed to the Second Battalion of 55th Reg't, in the room of John W. Locke, resigned; John Grantham as Lieutenant, in the room of said Blackmore, promoted; and Hannon McKnight as Ensign, in the room of said Grantham, promoted.

Ordered, That Lewis Evans be recommended to the Executive as a proper person to be appointed Lieutenant in Captain Jacob H. Manning's Company of Light Infantry, annexed to the said Battalion and Regiment, in the room of William Tate, who refuses to serve, and Leonard Davidson as Ensign, in the room of said Evans, promoted.

A copy—Teste:

H. BEDINGER, C. B. C.

## THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 4.  
Norfolk

Advising the discontinuance of the quarantine. Informing him that Messrs. Hamilton & Co. are taking depositions in the suit against him on account of the shipment of horses. Asking the advice of Edmund Randolph. Attorney General.

## JOHN GURRANT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 9,  
Goochland

Praying remission of damages for failure to pay into the Treasury the Revenue for 1796 and 1797 according to law, the same being at this time, principal, interest, and costs, all paid up.

## NINNAN WYSE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 9,  
Richmond

Informing him of the completion of his contract for work done at the Armory, and that his receipts have barely covered his expenses.

Asking for the remainder of the work at sixteen shillings per perch, wet and dry, the public finding lime.

W. BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Always desirous of acting in my official capacity in such a manner as to obviate the charge of negligence should any unforeseen accident happen, I take the liberty of informing your Excellency and the Honorable Board that, in consequence of the increase of the Taxes, the receipts into the Treasury are so considerable as to compel me to risque a very considerable sum in a wooden chest. The Iron one which by permission I have contracted for has not yet arrived. Fearing in the meantime an accident might possibly happen, I thought it incumbent on me to submit it to the consideration of the Honorable Executive.

1799.  
Nov. 9,  
Treasury  
Office

I remain yours, &c.

LITT'N W. TAZEWELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

A few days before the session of the last District Court of Suffolk, I received your letter retaining me on the part of the Commonwealth in a suit there depending between the Commonwealth and William Aitcheson. A severe and painful illness, which has confined me for a long time, prevented my attending that court during its last session, and has until now prevented my answering your letter. The case standing on the court docket as a new supersedeas to the last term, could not, of course, have been taken up. At the next session it will certainly come on, however, and you may rely upon my particular attention then. Whether other counsel may be necessary or not it is impossible for me to say without seeing the record, but assistance is at all times agreeable to me, and if the case be of consequence to the Commonwealth, may be of utility and great advantage.

Nov. 10,  
King's Mill

I am, &c.

THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I rece'd your Exc'y's of the 13th and shall immediately discharge the Q. boat. The Frigate building here will be launched about the last of this month. It would have given me much pleasure \* \* \* \* \* seen your Excellency and Council here at the time, and am sorry it should happen at this period, when public affairs requize all our attendance.

Nov. 15,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1799.  
Nov. 16,  
Richmond

Giving it as his opinion that the price at which Ninnan Wyse offers to do the masonry at the Armory reasonably low.

As it is the wish of the Executive that some accommodation should be provided at the Penitentiary to receive convicts by the month of April, informs them that Locks, hinges, bolts, and Sheet Iron must be speedily provided, which must be imported. That the scaffolding erected for shingling the roof should be also used to do the painting while standing.

## HOWELL LEWIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 16,  
Richmond

Resigning office in 6th Reg't of Artillery. Recommending Lieut. Littlebury Weaver to fill his place.

Nov. 16

The subscribers, judges of the General Court, have, pursuant to law, allotted the Judges of the respective District Courts as follows:

William Nelson, jr., and Robert White, jr., Esq's, to the District of Winchester, Hardy, and Monongalia Courthouse; John Tyler and Paul Carrington, Esq's, to the District of Richmond, Petersburg, Brunswick Courthouse, and Stafford; Edmund Winston and James Henry, Esq's, to the districts of Prince Edward Courthouse, New Loudon, Washington Courthouse, and the Sweet Springs, in Botetourt County; Joseph Prentis and St. George Tucker, Esq's, to the district of Northumberland Courthouse, King and Queen Courthouse, W'msburg, and Accomack Courthouse; and Richard Parker and Joseph Jones, Esq's, to Staunton, Charlottesville, Fredericksburg, and Dumfries Districts, at the next succeeding terms thereof.

Witness our hands this fifteenth day of November, 1799.

JOS. PRENTIS,	[Seal.]
S. G. TUCKER,	[Seal.]
JOHN TYLER,	[Seal.]
WM. NELSON, jr.,	[Seal.]
ROB'T WHITE, jr.,	[Seal.]
P. CARRINGTON, Ju'r.	[Seal.]

A Copy:

W. ALLEN, C. G. C.

Nov. 20

Washington County, Virginia:

I do hereby certify that at the Battle that was fought near the Great Island on Holstein River with the Cherokee Indians, in the year

one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, I commanded a Militia company, and that Robert Campbell was in the said company; that during the action he was in front, and in that part of the line the Indians made the first attack, and that he acquitted himself well and behaved as a good soldier. I do also certify that he, the said Robert Campbell, served in the same company with me on the Expedition against the Shawnee Indians in the year 1774; also in the Expedition against the Cherokee Indians in the year 1776, and that he always behaved as a good soldier, and that during the late war I never heard of him being spoken otherwise of by the officers with whom he served.

1799.  
Nov. 20

Given under my hand this 20th day of November, 1799.

JOHN CAMPBELL.

D. FISHER, JOHN ALLISON, WM. WARREN AND OTHERS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Be it leave to represent that two black men, both named Isaac, now under sentence of death by the Court of Oyer and Terminer, of Southampton county, are said to be free citizens of the State of Maryland, who were imported into the State of Virginia contrary to the Act of the General Assembly in such cases, made and provided, by Benjamin Drew, and sold as slaves to two men from the State of Georgia—viz., Josua Butts and Harris Spiers, for the murder of whom sentence of death has been pronounced against said Isaacs in the said court, to be carried into execution on Monday, the 25th day of this instant.

Nov. 20,  
Southampton County

Your petitioners are humbly of opinion that under these circumstances the Court of Oyer and Terminer, in Southampton, had no authority to prosecute the said persons to conviction, and therefore pray that your Excellency would suspend the execution until this matter can certainly appear.

The certificates of character and military services of Robert Campbell and Robert Preston in a controversy between them for the Colonelcy of the 105 Regiment of the Virginia Militia are on file.

Nov. 20

PAT. HOME AND GEO. WHEELER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your favor of the 5th inst. we yesterday received; in answer to which we have only to observe that we are willing to comply with our proposals given on the 25 ulto., and as soon as the contract can be forwarded to give the necessary security.

Nov. 22,  
Culpeper

We have the honor, &c.

## JAMES P. PRESTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1799.  
Nov. 22.  
Smithfield      Soliciting a piece of Artillery and 50 stand of small arms for his Company of Artillery now organized.

## CHAS. JOHNSTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 25,  
Richmond      Mr. Pollard's indisposition has prevented a regular reply to your favor of the 23rd inst. and still continuing too unwell to attend to business, he has authorized me to say, that the great difficulty which it appeared to Mr. Swan's agent at Boston, would arise in procuring proper persons at this place, to fix the difference in the value of the arms, made them anxious that the price should be agreed upon between the parties without having recourse to the other mode. But finding that the Board have come to a determination not to receive them upon any other terms than those proposed on the 10th of Sept'r, he has authorized me to say that that proposal will be accepted, and that he will immediately proceed to appoint a proper person to act in the valuation on the part of Mr. Swan, and will expect your Excellency to take the same steps on behalf of the Government.

I am Sir, &c.

RICHMOND, Nov. 21st, 1799.

I have received instructions from the agents of Mr. Swan, to offer you the arms at ten dollars p'r stand. The balance of the first contract have arrived at New York, but in consequence of your not accepting the last offer that was made of them, orders were given for disposing of them there: if that should be carried into effect, only those that have arrived here can be delivered you, but if they are not sold, and you accede to my offer, they will be immediately ordered round.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ROBERT POLLARD.

## THOMAS NEWTON, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 27,  
Norfolk      Enclosing Dr. Read's Report of vessels visited by him as Inspector of Quarantine, and to his faithfulness to duty.

NORFOLK, 22 Nov. 1799.

DEAR SIR:

You have enclosed a general report of vessels examined by me under your orders from 20th June. You will however recollect that I

visited many before that date. I leave to you to describe the trouble and fatigue of such a business, and the injury it must be to a man in practice. I leave it also to say if I was faithful in discharge of my duty.

1799.  
Nov. 27,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

J. K. READ.

Report of vessels visited by J. K. Read, Health Officer at Norfolk, from 20th of June, 1799, to 22nd November:

No. of vessels visited, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	126
No. of men inspected, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,087

He leaves to the Executive the measure of his compensation.

SAM'L COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Enclosed herewith I do myself the honor of submitting to the Executive a copy of a report and statement of the public Arms which have been issued to the Militia, made by me and submitted to the Executive the 9th of January last.

Nov. 29,  
Adjutant  
General's  
Office

I do this in consequence of an order of Council of the 16th July last, and accompany the said inclosures with all the answers which have been received to letters which were wrote in pursuance of the aforesaid order of Council.

These letters stand recorded in a book, also herewith submitted, which is kept in the office of the Adjutant-General, and which may at any time be adverted to. I have to request, sir, that these inclosures, together with the said letters, recorded as aforesaid, may be considered as a report of the manner in which the aforesaid order of Council has been executed by me in behalf of the Adjutant-General.

I have, &c.

Sussex County, to wit:

The Court proceeded to recommend officers to fill vacancies in the Militia of this county, as follows, to wit:

Nov. 30

Robert Booth as Colonel Commandant in place of William Massenburg, who has resigned.

William Peters, Second Lieutenant under Thos. Booth, Captain of a company of Cavalry.

Thomas Hunt, jun'r, cornet to the same company.

Joseph Wrenn, Lieutenant in place of Howell Jones, who is promoted.

Samuel Jones, Lieutenant in place of Mark Harwell, deceased.

A copy—Teste:

JAMES C. BAILEY.

IN THE SENATE,  
*Thursday, December 5th, 1799.*

1799.  
 Dec. 5

The House proceeded, according to the order of the day, by joint ballot with the House of Delegates to the choice of a Senator for the State in the Senate of the United States, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of Henry Tazewell, Esquire; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons balloted for, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Eyre, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Strother, and Mr. Preston were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the House of Delegates in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew, and after some time returned into the House, and Mr. Taylor reported that the committee have, according to order, met a committee from the House of Delegates in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes and found a majority of votes in favor of Wilson Cary Nicholas.

Teste:

H. BROOKE, C. S.

IN THE SENATE,  
*Friday, December the 6th, 1799.*

Dec. 6

The House proceeded, according to the order of the day, by joint ballot with the House of Delegates to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth for one year; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons balloted for, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Bassett, Mr. Temple, Mr. Faulcon, and Mr. Hudgins were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the House of Delegates in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The Committee then withdrew, and after some time returned into the House, and Mr. Spencer reported that the committee had, according to order, met a committee from the House of Delegates in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes and found a majority of votes in favor of James Monroe, Esquire.

Teste:

H. BROOKE, C. S.

GEO. WINSTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 9

Desiring to have the Bricks counted that have been laid since last count at the Penitentiary.



Offering to make what will be necessary to complete the work at 38s. per M, and to furnish single-moulded Brick for outside without extra charge. Linné at 17d. per bushel.

1799.  
Dec. 9

MERI. JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking for an advance of \$300 to aid him in completing the binding of the Laws of Congress.

Dec. 10

JOHN MINOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Since my return home from Richmond I have received a letter from Col. Thos. Lee in answer to one I wrote him from Richmond respecting the suit of Bristoe vs. the Commonwealth. The following is a copy of his letter to me:

Dec. 10,  
Fredericks-  
burg

"I have received your favor from Richmond: your former letter never came to hand. When I was in Richmond, in May last, I gave the Governor all the information I was possessed of on the subject you have written about. This was done in writing, which I presume he must have mislaid; however, it was to this amount. The names of the Commissioners appointed by the British Government to ascertain the value of the Lands belonging to the refugees, and confiscated during the American Revolution, I have never been able to learn. Their Secretary's name was Robert McKenzie. The names of the Commissioners, I presume, might be found out by reference to a Court Callender for the years 1783-4 or '5. If that could not be done, as it is possible that the Commissioners and Secretary may be dead, or not now residing in the city of London, an attested copy of the payment for confiscated Lands to the widow or heirs of Robert Bristoe, in Virginia, I suppose, might be had from the records of the Commissioners, which no doubt is in some public office in the city of London. I hope this information will be sufficient to enable the Governor to take the necessary steps to procure the evidence."

I think, sir, it will be necessary to employ an agent in London to procure the necessary testimony. The object of the controversy is considerable. I think I mentioned to you as a fit agent, Mr. John Rennolds, formerly of Tappahannock, now of Loudoun, as a proper agent.

I am, &c.

Samuel McCraw and John Mayo, Esquires, members of the Privy Council, or Council of State, removed from office in accordance with the provision of the Constitution for securing rotation.

Dec. 11

1799.  
Dec. 12      Alexander Stewart, Esq., elected a member of the Privy Council in the room of Hardin Burnley, resigned.

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Dec. 12      William Foushee, Esq., elected member of the Privy Council in the room of John Allen, deceased.

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Dec. 12      John Clopton and James Wood, Esquires, elected members of the Privy Council in the room of Samuel McCraw and John Mayo.

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Dec. 13      The qualification of Alexander Stewart and Wm. Foushee, Esquires, as members of the Privy Council of Virginia, before Miles Selden, a Justice of the Peace for Henrico county.

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#### JOEL BROWNE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 13,  
Washington  
City      Replying to letter of inquiry as to the emancipation of negro Isaac, convicted in the Court of Southampton of participating in the murder of Joshua Butte and Harris Seirs; denying his statement as to his having emancipated said Isaac.

Asking for a reprieve for him.

---

#### JAMES PRICE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 15,  
Baltimore      In reply, says that negro man Sam, convicted in the Court of Southampton for the murder of Joshua Butte and Harris Siers, claiming his freedom was not entitled thereto.

The Board took into consideration the situation of old Sam, Isaac and Hatter Isaac, condemned by the Court of — for the murder of —, and do advise that a further reprieve be extended to them till Fryday the — day of — next, and that the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of all the correspondence relative to this case to the Governor of Maryland, requesting him to cause enquiry to be made respecting the claim to freedom asserted by the said Isaac and Hatter Isaac, and that he will be pleased to transmit the result of such enquiry to the Executive of this State.

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City of Richmond, to-wit:

Dec. 19      I do hereby certify that I have administered the oath prescribed by law to be taken by the Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Common-

wealth, unto James Monroe, Esq'r, who hath been duly elected to that office.

1799.  
Dec. 19

Given under my hand this 19th day of December, 1799.

WM. DUVAL.

IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

Resolved, That the Executive be requested to lay before this House, a statement of the number of arms which have been issued from the public Arsenal to the Militia of this Commonwealth, during seven years last past and not returned thereto, and to whom, and the condition of the said arms so issued.

Dec. 20

Teste:

WM. WIRT, C. H. D.

MERI. JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding his acc't for printing the laws of Congress: accounting for the increased cost of the same work, as done by his predecessor.

Dec. 20

JACOB COOKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Offering to contract to manufacture one thousand muskets, the same as the Charleville make, at thirteen dollars and one half each, within fifteen months from date of contract, provided he can have an advance of five hundred dollars, for which he will give ample security.

Dec. 21,  
Richmond

ALEX'R GIBSON TO J. PENDLETON.

Late last night I was honored with your letter of the 14th, per the Guide accompanying the two Chickasaw Indians, one of them apparently weak and dangerously indisposed, not able to proceed further. However, every attention shall be paid to his present situation, and such reasonable aid as humanity may dictate shall be afforded for his further relief and comfort.

Dec. 21,  
Camp near  
Staunton

Your apology for troubling me with these people is perfectly satisfactory.

I have, &c.

M. ARMSTRONG TO THE GOVERNOR.

Resigning the commission of Captain of Cavalry in the 3rd Regiment in consequence of holding a commission as collector of direct U. S. Tax. Recommending William Martin as Captain of Cavalry in his room.

Dec. 21

## IN SENATE.

1799.  
Dec. 21

The House proceeded according to the order of the day, by joint ballot with the House of Delegates, to the choice of a Treasurer for this Commonwealth. The Committees, after counting the ballots, reported the majority of votes in favor of William Berkeley.

Teste:

H. BROOKE, C. S.

## C. SCOTT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 25

Asking compensation for forty horsemen Swords which he had purchased for the use of the company of Prince Edward Cavalry under his command, from Campbell & Clarke, at the cost of £74.17.6.

## ROBERT POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 28,  
Richmond

I have the honor to inform you that the balance of the 4,000 stand of arms that Mr. Swan engaged to furnish have arrived, and that I shall be ready to carry the last contract into effect as soon as I can procure a proper person to make the valuation. In the meantime, please inform me when you think it will be convenient for you to have the valuation made.

I have, &amp;c.

## SAM'L COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 28,  
Council  
Office

Inclosed herewith is a copy of a statement of the public arms which have been issued to the Militia by order of the Executive since May, 1792, accompanied by a report to the Governor on the subject, dated the 9th of January, 1799; a copy of the return of those issued from the Point of Fork since December, 1793, stating also the number which have been returned to that place, and a copy of a report on this subject which was made to the Governor the 29th ultimo.

These papers contain all the information which it is in my power to give respecting the public arms issued to the Militia, except that twenty-seven Muskets and twenty-three Bayonets of the number issued to Captain Reuben George, are returned and now in the care of the Keeper of the Capitol, and in the same situation are forty-six Muskets, forty-five Bayonets, and fifty Cartridge Boxes of those which were issued to Captain Philip N. Nicholas, all very much out of repair.

I may further add that an advice of Council is entered on the Journal under date of the 15th of October last, that the arms issued from the

Arsenal, as they are returned, be repaired at the expense of the officers who have received them.

I have, &c.

1799.  
Dec. 28,  
Council  
Office

	Muskets.	Bayonets.	Cartridge boxes.
No. issued, - -	3,786	3,786	3,786
No. returned, - -	138	127	112
	<u>3,648</u>	<u>3,659</u>	<u>3,674</u>

ROBERT POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have received your favor of the 28th, and shall direct the arms to be sent to the Capitol to the care of Capt. Coleman as soon as the weather will permit.

Dec. 30,  
Richmond

On examining the contract, I do not think Mr. Swan bound to pay any expense after delivering them in Richmond, and I have no reason to suppose that there is not a coincidence in our opinions on this subject from anything contained in your Letter.

I have, &c.

ROBERT McCORMICK & Co. TO THE GOVERNOR.

We take the liberty of sending you enclosed Copy of a Letter from James Wood, Esq'r, late Governor of the State of Virginia, respecting proposals we made under date of the 12th of August last for furnishing that State with four thousand stand of arms, being approved of and accepted in council. We also send copy of our answer thereto dated 20th November. Since that period we have not had the honor of any communication respecting the contract. This delay, we presume, has arisen in consequence of the changes which have taken place in the Executive.

Dec. 30,  
Philadel-  
phia

Until the contract be perfected we cannot compleat our arrangements for carrying it into effect.

We therefore request that your Excellency will have the goodness to have the contract forwarded here, and also to inform us who your Agent is whom you have appointed to receive and pay for the arms when delivered.

Expecting the honor of a reply, we remain, &c.

GLOBE MILL, PHILADELPHIA, 12 Aug., 1799.

HIS EXCELLENCY, JAMES WOOD:

Having seen your advertisement for four thousand stand of arms for the State of Virginia, we beg leave to propose making them on the

1799.  
Dec. 30,  
Philadel-  
phia

terms which are given us by the United States for muskets mounted with Iron, which are \$13 40-100 for each Musket and Bayonet (no scabbard).

If these terms be acceptable, by an application to the Secretary of War an Inspector may be appointed here to examine the work as done for the United States; and on the delivery of fifty stand of arms, which would pass Inspection, it would be necessary that a previous arrangement should be made to enable us then to receive payment therefor, as our establishment (at present in its infancy) will not permit our being in advance, or even of the payment being delayed. We can furnish fifty muskets each week without that interfering with our Engagements to the United States. With respect to the Swords and Pistols we cannot make any certain proposal without knowing of what quality and patern they are to be. If they are to be of the same kind as those made use of by the United States the charge for Swords, with Scabbards, would be \$6 50-100 each; for Pistols, without hostlers, would be \$14 13-100 per pair.

We request that your Excellency will favor us with your answer as soon as convenient, and we engage that if these terms be acceded to, the workmanship in all its parts shall be as well finished as that which we do for the United States under their immediate Inspection.

We remain, &c.,

ROBERT McCORMICK & Co.

RICHMOND, 5th November, 1799.

MESSRS. ROBERT McCORMICK & Co.:

The letter which you did me the honor to write the 12 August last, was immediately submitted to the consideration of the Council of State. A decision on your proposition has been postponed from time to time until this day. We have determined to adopt the Charleville musket, exactly conformable with the United States patern, and are willing to accede to your proposal to deliver to our agent in Philadelphia, fifty muskets and bayonets weekly at \$13 40-100, and will upon hearing from you, make such arrangements as to ensure punctuality on the part of the Commonwealth. So soon as I have the pleasure of your reply to this letter, I will forward the necessary written contract.

I have the honor, &c.,

JAMES WOOD.

GLOBE MILL, PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 20th.

HIS EXCELLENCY JAMES WOOD, ESQ.:

We received the honor of your information that the honorable Council of Virginia had acceded to our proposition, contained in the letter we had the honor to address to you on the 12th of August last, for the manufacture of four thousand stand of arms for the State of Virginia.

We are now ready to enter into contract for the above arms on the terms mentioned in your letter, and shall commence our first delivery of arms on the first Saturday of the year 1800, at the rate of 50 stand per week until the contract is compleated.

1799.  
Dec. 30.  
Philadel-  
phia

We request that your Excellency will, through the Secretary of War or otherwise, appoint a proper officer for the proof of the barrels and inspection of the arms which we finish. We also desire to be informed what mark or designation these arms should bear as being the property of the State of Virginia. We shall immediately after the perfecting the contract, make arrangements for carrying it into effect.

Respectfully, we remain, &c.

ROBERT McCORMICK & Co.

GLOBE MILL, PHILADELPHIA, *Dec. 30th.*

HON. JAMES WOOD:

We take the liberty of annexing a copy of our Letter of the 20th of November, in answer to yours of the 5th of same month, since which we have not had the honor of hearing from you or receiving any information whatever relative to the contract being forwarded for completion.

We request that you will have the goodness, sir, to mention the subject in the Executive Council, as we cannot proceed with our arrangements for the delivery of arms until the contract be compleated. We have taken the liberty of writing to Governor Monroe by this post on the same subject.

With respect, &c.,

ROBERT McCORMICK & Co.

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RO. QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

In conformity to directions sending in accounts of expenses attending repairs of arms issued to Capt. Archer McRea's company, viz:

Dec. 31,  
Arsenal

1st account of repairs, - - - - -	\$11 17
2nd Do., Muskets, Bayonets, Cartridge Boxes lost, and cleaning,	63 26
	<hr/>
	\$74 43

---

The official Bond of William Berkeley as Treasurer of the Commonwealth for one year from the date of his appointment and to the end of the session of the General Assembly next after the expiration of that period in the penalty of One Million of Dollars, with the following names affixed as securities, viz: Burwell Bassett, William Hickman, Wm. Randolph, Carter Berkeley, Collier Harrison, Thomas Griffin, Lewis Berkeley, John Pendleton, is filed.

Dec. 31

1799.  
Dec. 31      A second official Bond of William Berkeley as Treasurer of the Commonwealth, of same date and for same period, in the penalty of One Million of Dollars, with the name of Wilson C. Nicholas as security, is filed.

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*A Quarterly Return of Arms and Military Stores at the State Arsenal, near Columbia, from the 1st of October to the 31st of December, 1799.*

Dec. 31,      1 16-Inch Brass Mortar, 1 piece of Brass Ordnance, 7122 Muskets in  
Arsenal      good repair, 730 Muskets with ruff unground Bayonets, 900 Artillery and Grenadier Swords, 7 Barrels of Gun Powder, 40 Pigs of Lead, 180 Canister Shot, 260 Cannon shot from 4 to 6 Pounders, 30 Rhears of Cartridge Paper, 18 Barrels of Flints, 1650 Pounds of Ball and Buck Shot.

Work done this Quarter:

186 Muskets repaired, cleaned, and put into the Arsenal.

N. B.—The arms lately returned to the Arsenal from some of the Light Infantry companies of Militia are so extremely defective as to require much time and labor to enable the smiths to repair them.

RO. QUARLES, Sup't.

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Dec. 31      John Buchanan and John D. Blair present their respects to his Excellency the Governor and the honorable members of the Council of State. They beg leave to State that by the courtesy of the Executive they have hitherto been favored with the use of the Assembly Room (alternately) on the morning of the Sabbath for the performance of Divine Service, and make this their respectful application to the Board for the continuance of the same indulgence.

Friday, 31st of December, 1799.

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Dec. 31,      The application of James Dillon and Jesse Kidd, Se'r, soldiers at the  
Arsenal      Arsenal to be allowed rations for their wives.

---

Dec. 31      A petition of numerous citizens on Back Creek in Berkeley County, for commissions of the peace to be given to Alexander Fleming, William Wilson and Samuel Boyd of that vicinity.

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Dec. 31      A remonstrance of numerous citizens of Berkeley County against the appointment of Samuel Boyd, William Wilson and Alexander Fleming as Justices for said county.



The Board took under their consideration, the present deranged situation of the three Regiments composed of the Militia within the counties of Fairfax and Loudoun, and which has arisen from alterations lately made in the dividing lines between the said counties.

1799.  
Dec. 31

Whereupon, it is advised, that all the Militia, comprehended within that part of Loudoun lately added to the county of Fairfax, be annexed to and made a part of the 60th Regiment, and that all the officers holding commissions in the District added to the county of Fairfax, be transferred to the 60th Regiment, where they are to take rank from their former commissions—and it is further advised, that the Brigadier-General or officer commanding the 6th Brigade, be instructed to cause Boards of Officers in the 56th and 57th Regiments, to make the necessary alterations in the Regimental, as well as the Battalion Districts, so as to make the effective force of each Regiment as nearly equal as circumstances will admit—and that the Commandant of the 60th Regiment, cause a Regimental Board of Officers to make the necessary alterations in the Battalion Districts of the said Regiment, conformably with the IX Section of the Militia Law of 1795, and that Reports of the several Boards be made to the Executive, as soon as possible, together with a Roll stating the relative rank of the different grades of officers in each of the Regiments.

Major Catesby Jones of the Northumberland Militia, requests that some arms may be furnished the 37th Regiment—the county being entirely destitute of the means of defence and much exposed from their vicinity to the Bay in case of a sudden invasion.

Dec. 31,  
Northum-  
berland Co.

#### SAM'L CRALLE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Complaining of injustice done him by the Court of Northumberland in not recommending him for a Major's Commission to which he was entitled by seniority of nine years over his competitor.

Dec. 31

I hereby certify Samuel Cralle is the oldest Captain in the 37th Reg't, North'd Militia, and that he has long been an officer in said Reg't, and conducted himself with as much propriety and is as good an officer as any belonging to the Reg't.

Dec. 31

Given under my hand this 22nd day of May, 1799.

CATESBY JONES,  
Major 37th Reg't.

1799.  
Dec. 31 William Stanard, of the County of Spotsylvania, offers to the Commonwealth, for the purpose of erecting thereon an Arsenal for the repository of public arms, a donation of four acres of land adjoining the Town of Stanardsville, in the County of Orange, on the main road leading from Staunton, through the Swift-Run Gap, to Fredericksburg.

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MERL JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 31 Soliciting an advance of one quarter's Salary as Public Printer to enable him to buy some Fonts of Type in Philadelphia.

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J. MINOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 31 Recommending John Rennolds, of Loudoun, for attending to taking Depositions at the suit of the Commonwealth vs. Bristoe.

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SAM'L KELLO TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
Jan. 2, Southampton I transmit herewith copies of the record in the case of the Slaves mentioned in your letter. I have only to add that the Court was unanimous, a circumstance omitted in the record, as had it been otherwise no condemnation could have taken place.

I am, &c.

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JACOB COOKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 2, Richmond Proposals for manufacturing arms for the Commonwealth. He will make Muskets, according to the Charleville pattern, at Thirteen Dollars and fifty cents each, at the rate of twenty-five per week, provided he can get an advance of Five Hundred Dollars, to be repaid when the second hundred muskets is delivered.

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RO. SAUNDERS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 4 Resigning and returning his commission as Notary Public of W'msb-  
burg.

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MARTIN MINNS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 4 Asking for the appointment of suitable judges to measure and value the extra brick work done at the Penitentiary in 1799.

*Statement of the Books of the Bank of Alexandria, 6th January, 1800.*

To Bills and Notes, -	\$634,024 46	Am't Deposits, -	\$ 96,450 75	1800.
" Cash, - -	207,919 77	Bank Notes, - -	282,627 50	Jan. 6
" Bank House, -	4,500 00	Post Notes, - -	110,569 20	
" Ponds, - -	4,911 85	Profit and Loss, -	6,874 78	
		Dividend No. 5, -	34 00	
		" " 8, -	27 00	
		" " 10, -	68 00	
		" " 11, -	171 00	
		" " 12, -	603 00	
		" " 13, -	15,219 00	
		Interest, - -	511 85	
		Stock, - -	338,200 00	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	\$851,356 08		\$851,356 08	

ALEXANDRIA, 8 Jan'y, 1800.

SIR:

I have the honor of enclosing your Excellency, Statement of the Bank of Alexandria for the last twelve months.

I am, &c.,

Wm. HUBERT, Pres't.

ROBERT POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have had the honor to receive your favor of the 6th instant, and have to inform you that I have appointed Major William Preston on the part of Mr. James Swan to value the arms, who is ready to proceed on that business immediately.

Jan. 8,  
Richmond

Mr. Swan having long since advanced the money for these arms, his interest is suffering very much in consequence thereof. If you could relieve him by a partial advance of money until the valuation is completed, it would be a great accommodation.

I have, &c.

JAMES MONROE TO EDMUND RANDOLPH.

Some slaves were not long since brought from Maryland into this State by the people who bought them there, in their passage to one of the more Southern States. In Southampton they rose against and murdered their masters, as appears by the record of the Court of that county, by which Court they were tried and condemned to suffer death. A doubt

Jan. 8,  
In Council

1800.  
Jan. 8,  
In Council

arises under our law, which gives an incipient right of freedom to slaves brought from another State into this, whether, under the circumstances attending the case, they can be legally tried and condemned as slaves; and if the judgment of the Court be correct, whether the Commonwealth is answerable for their value as in ordinary cases, the introduction of them into the State being a reprehensible act, and the proprietors and those claiming under them citizens of another State.

I have to request your opinion on these points by the advice of the Council, and as soon as convenient, it being a case in which the Executive will be bound to give an early decision.

I send you all the papers appertaining to the subject, and am, with respect and esteem,

Your, &c.

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EDMUND RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 8,  
Richmond

I am much indebted to your Excellency and the Council of State, for their attention in calling for an opinion from me, altho' the subject of your favor of this afternoon awakens some sentiments of tenderness. Considerations however of this sort, I lay aside; and in particular I pass over as not being submitted to me, all regard to the youth, simplicity, good character and duress of Jerry, as stated in Mr. Kello's letter of the 20th of November, 1799. Nor can I presume to judge upon testimony which in this point is very imperfect, whether if the negroes were free at the time of the homicide, circumstances existed which could reduce it from murder to manslaughter or to a justifiable act. If their fate should turn in the breast of the Executive upon this last enquiry, I suppose that a full statement of the evidence can be procured.

What the condition of Hatter Isaac and old Sam was in Maryland is plain; the former being there a slave as certified by James Price, as was the latter according to the declaration of Joel Browne. Isaac and Jerry claim freedom; but no document transmitted to me proves this pretention, tho' on the other hand it does not appear that any attempt has been made to obtain proof of this fact.

But are they free in consequence of the importation from Maryland into this Commonwealth?

They were purchased in Maryland and brought into Virginia by Benjamin Drew and William Boykin, citizens and inhabitants of Virginia.

The law of December the 17th, 1792, forbade this under a penalty on Drew and Boykin; who came not within the exceptions of persons removing from other of the United States for the sake of citizenship here; or claiming the negroes by marriage, descent or devise, or being on that day actual owners of them and removing them to Virginia, or being travellers, or others making a transient stay, and bringing the negroes for necessary

attendance and carrying them out again. As this importation by Drew and Boykin is the only act upon which their emancipation depends, it is useless to take into contemplation Butte and Spiers who were after purchasers.

1800.  
Jan. 8,  
Richmond

A principal ingredient of freedom on account of being brought into this Commonwealth is, that the slave brought in "Shall be kept therein one whole year together, and so long at different times as shall amount to one year." But they were brought in only three months preceding their trial on the 25th of October, 1799. Altho', therefore, Drew and Boykin incurred a penalty, the negroes were not free at the date of the trial.

They might never be free, as Boykin and Drew were at liberty to remove them from the Commonwealth, and thus prevent the chief requisite towards freedom being ever fulfilled, to-wit: their being kept here for a twelve month at one or more times.

They were therefore properly tried as slaves.

As to their valuation, the law speaks thus: "The value of a slave condemned to die who shall suffer accordingly, &c. shall be paid by the public to the owner." I do not conceive that Drew and Boykin themselves had they continued the owners of the slaves would have been deprived of the valuation, because, notwithstanding they were illegally imported, the relation of owner and slave continued to subsist until the expiration of the twelve month.

But Drew and Boykin were not the owners at the time of the homicide. Butte and Speirs were the owners. They had done nothing unlawful in purchasing the negroes, nor if they had, would they have been disqualified thereby, being citizens of Georgia, from demanding the valuation.

The law regards neither the conduct nor country of the owner. Perhaps it might be advisable to draw back as much of the valuation as possible by directing prosecutions for the penalties against Drew and Boykin.

I have, &c.

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RICH'D ADAMS, WM. FOUSHEE, ROBT. MITCHELL, DIRECTORS OF  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Report, in conformity with a resolution of the House of Delegates at their present session, that the cost of repairing the house and enclosures designed for the residence of the Governor of the State and of furnishing the same suitably for his use, would be £500.12.0, stating items. Jan. 10

## THOS. T. DAVIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
Jan. 12, Philadel-  
phia Asking instruction as to a pension for William Shepherd, of Kentucky,  
and sending certificates for same, with reply of the Auditor of the State  
thereto.

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IN SENATE, *January 13th, 1800.*

Jan. 13 The House proceeded according to the order of the day by joint ballot  
with the House of Delegates, to the choice of a judge of the General  
Court in the room of James Henry, Esquire, who hath resigned.

The Committee of the Senate, jointly with the Committee of the  
House of Delegates, proceeded to count the ballots, and reported that the  
majority of votes were in favor of Archibald Stuart, Esquire.

Teste:

H. BROOKE, C. S.

## ROBERT McCORMICK &amp; Co. TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 21, Asking that they be released from giving any further security for the  
Philadelphia performance of their contract for manufacturing arms than their own  
obligation.

## J. CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 21 Enclosing two proposals, furnished according to the order of the Board,  
for furnishing Bricks and Lime for building the Penitentiary:

First Offer—Bricks at 6 dollars per M, Lime 1s. 4d. per bushel; by  
John P. Shields.

Second Offer—Bricks 39s. per M, Lime 17d. per bushel; by John  
Hawse.

Jan. 21 \* Proceedings of a Meeting held at the Capitol in the city of Rich-  
mond for the purpose of framing a Republican Ticket to be submitted  
to the Freeholders of the State of Virginia at the ensuing Election of  
Electors to choose a President and Vice President:

TUESDAY, *January 21st, 1800.*

At a meeting of ninety-three members of the Legislature and a num-  
ber of other respectable persons, convened at the Capitol in the city of

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\* Though not a State paper, this was found among the archives, and deemed of sufficient  
interest to print.—Ed.

Richmond, for the purpose of selecting in the different districts of this State proper persons to be supported by the Republican Interest as Electors of a President and Vice President of the United States. Samuel Shield, Chairman. Littleton W. Tazewell, Secretary.

1800  
Jan. 21

Resolved, unanimously, That the following persons be recommended by this Meeting as the most fit characters to be named at the ensuing Election of President and Vice President of the United States on the Republican Ticket:

Edmund Pendleton, of Caroline: George Wythe, of the city of Richmond: James Madison, Ju'r. of Orange: John Page, of Gloucester: Wm. B. Giles, of Amelia: Richard Brent, of Prince William: Walter Jones, of Northumberland: Carter B. Harrison, of Prince George: Andrew Moore, of Rockbridge: Archibald Stuart, of Augusta: Creed Taylor, of Cumberland: Hugh Holmes, of Frederick: Gen'l John Brown, of Hardy: Gen'l John Preston, of Montgomery: Gen'l Joseph Jones, of Dinwiddie: George Penn, of Patrick: Thomas Read, Sen'r. of Charlotte: Wm. H. Cabell, of Amherst: Thos. Newton, Ju'r. of Norfolk Borough: Wm. Newsome, of Princess Anne: William Elsey, of Loudoun.

Resolved, That a committee consisting of five members be appointed, who are requested to prepare and report to this meeting a proper system of communication throughout the State, and such other matters as they may think of importance, and that the committee be composed of the following persons: Messrs. Barbour, Tyler, Daniel, Mercer, and Tazewell.

Resolved, That this meeting do now adjourn, and that the members will again assemble at this place on Thursday next.

THURSDAY, January 23rd, 1800.

The Committee appointed for that purpose, made a Report relative to the establishment of a proper system of correspondence, which, being read, was agreed to, and is as follows:

Jan. 28

The committee recommend that there should be a general committee of correspondence, to consist of five persons residing in or near the city of Richmond, whose duty it shall be forthwith to inform the several Persons agreed upon as Electors, that a poll will be taken for them at the ensuing Election in confidence of their attachment to the cause of Liberty, and desire their answers, which shall state whether or not they consent to be considered as candidates on the general Republican Ticket. To communicate the Result of such answer to the county committees, which shall be established in each county, except where sufficient friendly characters cannot be designated, and where for such cause no committee can be established in a particular county. To communicate with any person therein of whose friendly disposition they shall be previously satisfied.

1800.  
Jan. 23

When any person now agreed upon as a candidate, shall refuse to be considered as such, or shall die, or shall become unfriendly to the end proposed (which two last instances it shall be the duty of the several county committees to communicate to the General Committee), it shall be the duty of the General Committee to make the same known to the several county committees, or to such person as they may select in a County where there may be no committee, and also to inform them of the name of the person substituted by the General Committee in lieu of such candidate; which person thus to be substituted, shall be forthwith, when the necessity occurs, recommended by the committees of the counties composing the District such person is to represent. But no candidate now agreed upon shall be displaced but in cases before mentioned.

There shall be a committee of five Persons appointed in each county, whose duty it shall be to receive all communications from the general committee, and to send to them such information as they shall deem necessary to promote the Republican Ticket.

It shall be the duty of the General Committee so soon as an answer shall be received from the several persons now agreed upon as candidates, and also from the several county committees as answer to their communication on the subject of the answer of the candidates as at such other time as they may deem most proper, to have published in the public newspapers the general Republican Ticket and the names of the candidate in each District.

The committee recommend that each member shall deposit the sum of one dollar with the committee to defray the expenses attending the necessary communication, &c.

That the candidate from each District shall attend at Richmond at least three days before the day appointed for the Electors to give their votes, as the Governor's proclamation declaring the persons chosen, may not in time reach the more distant Districts.

That each member take correct notes of these proceedings which shall not be made known.

That before the publication of the general ticket takes place, the friends of the same in each District, shall speak of the candidate now agreed upon as the person who will probably be selected for that District, and also of the most prominent characters who will probably be selected in other Districts.

That when no committee shall be appointed in any county, owing to any circumstances whatever, and one or more persons shall be named as fit persons to fill this office in any county, he or they shall be authorized to associate with him or them, such other person or persons in the county as he or they shall judge proper, who together with the persons so first named, shall be the corresponding committee in such county.

That if any member of the standing committee or any county com-



mittee should die, remove or refuse to act, the other members of the said committee shall be authorized to supply the vacancy thus occasioned.

1860.  
Jan. 28

That one hundred copies of the rules of proceeding now adopted should be published and distributed by the standing committee among the different county committees.

The report of the select committee being agreed to, the meeting proceeded in conformity thereto to choose a standing committee and to name fit persons to constitute corresponding committees in the different counties.

The following persons were appointed a general Standing Committee, viz:

Philip Norborne Nicholas, Meriwether Jones, Benjamin Hatcher, Gervais Stairs and John Courtney.

Resolved, That John H. Foushee be appointed Secretary to the General Committee in the city of Richmond; and should any vacancy hereafter happen in this office, the Standing Committee shall be authorized to make such other appointment as they shall think proper.

The following persons were appointed Corresponding Committees in the different counties, to wit:

Albemarle—Thomas Mann Randolph, Milton; Peter Carr Nicholas, Lewis Francis Walker, and Rice Garland.

Amelia—Edmund Harrison, Amelia C. H.; Thos. Randolph, Archer Jones, John Archer, and Abram Green.

Amherst—Wm. S. Crawford, Cabellsburg; Landon Cabell, Joel Franklin, Martin Dawson, and Nelson Crawford.

Bath—John Lewis, Warm Spring; Jacob Warwick, James Laird, Moses Mann, and Elisha Williams.

Berkeley—Gen. William Darke, Charlestown; Geo. Hite, Thomas Rutherford, Ferdinand Fairfax, and Daniel Bedinger.

Botetourt—Martin McFeren, Botetourt C. H.; Thomas Rowland, Andrew Tapscott, George Schelering, and John H. Madison.

Brooke—Col. John Connel, West Liberty; Robert Caldwell, William McKennon, Thos. Beck, and William Laidey.

Brunswick—Sterling Ruffin, Gholston's; Thos. Claiborne, Willie Harrison, Aaron Brown, and Theophilus Fields.

Buckingham—William Perkins, Jr., Westminster; Matthew Branch, Anthony Dibrell, John Patterson, and John Pitman.

Campbell—John Dabney, Lynchburg; Daniel B. Perrow, Archibald Robinson, John Walker, and Edmund Winston.

Caroline—James Taylor, Bowling Green; Jas. Upshaw, John Hoomes, John Taylor, and Richard Hawes.

Charles City—John Bradley, Forge; John Walker, John Collin, John Tyler, and Dabney Bradley.

Charlotte—Quin Morton, Charlotte C. H.; Thomas Spencer, William L. Morton, Bernard Todd, and Sam'l White.

1800.  
Jan. 23

Chesterfield—Thos. Goode, Manchester; Isaac Sallie, Thos. Watkins, George Woodson, and John W. Eppes.

Culpeper—Philip R. Thompson, Culpeper C. H.; French Strother. Lewis Conner, John Shackelford, and Mord. Barbour.

Cumberland—Wm. Daniel, Jr., Cumberland C. H.; Thomas Deane, John Hatcher, Randolph Harrison, and Blake B. Woodson.

Dinwiddie—Geo. Hay, Petersburg; Edward Pegram, Williamson Coleman, Joseph Goodwyn, and William Hardway.

Elizabeth City—Geo. Wacey, Hampton; Augustine Moon, Sr., Thos. Jones, Capt. Wm. Armistead, and Sam'l Selden.

Essex—William Brokenbrough, Tappahannock; Stretchley Reynolds, Robert Baylor, Tunstall Banks, and Thomas Pitts, Jr.

Fauquier—Augustine Jennings, Fauquier C. H.; Gustavus B. Horner, Rich'd H. Foote, Hancock Lee, and John Blackwell (Tin-Pot).

Fairfax—Elisha C. Dick, Alexandria; Roger West, Francis Peyton, Thompson Mason, and Walter Jones, Jr.

Frederick—John Smith, Winchester; Robert Machie, Charles Catlett, James Singleton, and William Headly.

Franklin—Henry Calloway, Rocky Mount; Moses Greer, Benjamin Cook, Sam'l Harston, and Ro. Innes.

Fluvanna—John Quarles, Columbia; Sam'l Richardson, James Payne, Jos. Haden, and Allen Bernard.

Gloucester—Matthew Anderson, Gloucester C. H.; Richard Baynham, Mann Page, Nathaniel Burwell, and William Hall.

Goochland—Thomas Miller, Goochland C. H.; James Carter, Archlaus Perkins, Wm. Miller (Clerk), and Smith Payne.

Grayson—Philip Gaines, Austinville; John Filder, Enoch Osborne, Mintree Jones, and Greenbury G. McKennie.

Greensville—Francis Hill, Hicksford; Joseph Wilkins, John Camp, and John Goodwyn, with liberty to associate.

Halifax—George Carrington, Halifax C. H.; Berryman Green, William Terry, George Camp, and Charles Meriwether.

Hampshire—James Daitey, Romney; Osborne Sprigg, John Higgins, Lewis Dunn, and Andrew Mislagle.

Hanover—William Pollard, Hanover C. H.; Nathan'l Pope, Edward Garland, Sam'l Richardson, and Parke Street.

Hardy—Geo. Stump, Moorfield; John L. Sehon, Henry India, and Randolph Shobe, Jr.

Harrison—John Webster, Clarksburg; John Black, David Sluth, John Ratcliffe, and Uriah Ashcraft.

Henrico—Joseph Selden, Elisha Price, Joseph Duval, George Williamson, and Tarply White.

Henry—George Waller, Jn'r, Henry C. H.; John Alexander, Joseph Hopson, Peter Garland, and Brice Martin, Jn'r.

Isle of Wight—John Goodrich, Smithfield; Emanuel Wills, Francis Boykin, Richard Cocks, and John Barker.

1800.  
Jan. 23

James City—John Ambler, Williamsburg; Champion Travis, Littleton W. Tazewell, Wm. Lightfoot, and John Goodall, Jr.

King & Queen—Anderson Scott, Dunkirk; Thomas Roanes, Richard Brooke, Benjamin Dabney, and John Hoskins.

King George—Colo. John Taliaferro, Fredericksburg; Stephen Hansford, John A. Stuart, Wm. P. Flood, and Aaron Thornley.

Lancaster—Richard Selden, Lancaster C. H.; Martin Shearman, William Kirk, John Carpenter, and John Smith.

Lee—Benjamin Sharp, Abingdon; Peter Fulkerson, Joshua Ewing, William Ewing, and Charles Carter.

Loudoun—Rev. Amos Thompson, Leesburg; John Littlejohn, Albert Russell, and Thomas Jones, Jr.

Louisa—Wm. O. Callis, Yanceyville; Ro. Yancey, John Poindexter, Thomas Meriwether, and Dr. Watson.

Lunenburg—Waddy Street, Lunenburg C. H.; Francis Eppes, Christopher Robinson, Sterling Neblett, and Waller Taylor.

Madison—Abram Murray, Orange C. H.; William Mallory, Adam Banks, Wm. Eve, and Barnett Watts.

Matthews—Jos. Billups, Matth. Ct. H.; James Spark, Henley Gayle, Thomas Brooks, and Joshua Brown.

Mecklenburg—Richard Kennon, Meck. Ct. H.; Mark Alexander, William Munford, Abraham Keese, and Wm. Taylor, Jr.

Middlesex—Thomas Roane, Urbanna; William Segar, William George, Thomas Muse, and Wm. Robinson, son of Charles.

Monongalia—John Stailey, Morgan Town; Richard Claiborne, David Scott, &c.

Monroe—James Alexander, John Byrnsides, &c.

Montgomery—Daniel Trigg, Montgomery Ct. H.; Charles Taylor, Jas. P. Preston, Daniel Howe, and Bird Smith.

Nansemond—Josiah Riddick, Suffolk; Richard Yarborough, Edward Browne, Robert M. Riddick, and Joseph Godwin, Sr.

New Kent—James Semple, N. K. Ct. H.; Burwell Bassett, William Chamberlayne, Robert Armistead, and Edmund Parke.

Norfolk—R'd E. Lee, Norfolk; James Matthews, Josiah Butt, Robert Brough, and James Bennet.

Northampton—Caleb Fisher, Northampton Ct. H.; Matthew Guy, William Fisher, and John Elliott.

Northumberland—Catesby Jones, Heathsville; Mattram Ball, William Selmes, John H. Fallin, and Thomas Hurst.

Nottoway—Freeman Eppes, Nott. Ct. H.; Edward Bland, Jas. Jones, John Eppes, and Peter Bland.

Ohio—Capt. John Morgan, West Liberty; Ro. Stuart, Jos. Thornton, John Mills, and Joseph McCune.

1800.  
Jan. 23

Orange—Ro. Taylor, Orange Ct. H.; Robert Miller, Belfield Cave, Thos. Ellis, and Thomas Rose.

Patrick—Samuel Staples, Pat Ct. H.; Gabriel Penn, William Carter, Joshua Rentfro, and Wm. Banks.

Pendleton—Robert Davis, Pendleton Ct. H.; Mr. Capito, John Slavein, Moses Henkle, &c.

Pittsylvania—Isaac Coles, Pittsylvania Ct. H.; Wm. Tunstall, Joseph Carter, Nathaniel Williams, and Edmund Tunstall.

Powhatan—Richard Crump, Powhatan Ct. H.; Sam'l Pleasants, James Poindexter, Littlebury Moseley, and Jordan Harris.

Prince Edward—Archibald McRoberts, P. E. Ct. H.; Tarlton Woodson, John Kelsoc, Theodorick B. McRoberts, and Philemon Holcombe, Jr.

Prince William—Benjamin Botts, Dumfries; Matthew Harrison, Geo. Graham, John D. Orr, and Wm. Tyler.

Prince George—Doctor John Shore, Petersburg; Archibald Thweatt, Geo. Ruffin, Richard Bland, and William Parham.

Randolph—John Haddon, &c.

Richmond—Richard Barnes, R'd Ct. H.; Ezekiel Levi, Vincent Branham, Wm. McCarty and George Yerby.

Rockbridge—John Bowyer, Lexington; James Caruthers, John Leyburne, William Moore, and John Caruthers.

Rockingham—Andrew Shanklin, Rock'm Ct. H.; John Carthy, ju'r, Reuben Moore, Jacob Custard, and Jacob Biar.

Russell—Nathan Ellington, Russell Ct. H.; James McFarlane, John M. Arston, Francis Browning, and Sam'l Ritchel.

Shenandoah—James Allen, Woodstock; Jacob Rinker, Jared Williams, Philip Shamgler, and George Fravil.

Southampton—Sam'l Kello, So. Ct. H.; James Wilkinson, John Taylor, James Gee, and Augustine C. Cocke.

Spotsylvania—John Minor, Fred'ksb'g; Mann Page, Francis T. Brooke, John Chew, Sen'r, and David C. Kerr.

Stafford—Col. John Cooke, Aquia; John T. Brooke, John Fox, Robert Rose, and Rob't Henning.

Surry—Nicholas Faulcon, Surry Ct. H.; Wm. Boyce, Sam'l Bailey, Benjamin Edwards Brown, and Canfield Swan.

Sussex—John Mason, Petersburg; Nath'l Wyche, John Briggs, Benj'n Wyche, and George Reeves.

Warwick—Rich'd Cary, York; Wm. Dudley, Wm. Diggs, ju'r, William Allen, ju'r, and Rich'd McIntosh.

Washington—Francis Preston, Abingdon; Claiborn Watkins, Ro. Preston, Sam'l Edmondson, and Andrew Russell.

Westmoreland—Alexander Parker, W. Ct. H.; John P. Hungerford, Sam'l Templeman, Thomas Plummer, and Ransdale Pierce.

Wood—Harman Blannerhasset, Marietta; Hugh Phelps, Wm. Louther; Hoseh. Buhsey, and Daniel Kinchaloe.

Wythe—Alex'r Smith. Wythe C't. H.: Daniel Shettle. David Sawyers. Wm. Davis. and David Straunger.

1800.  
Jan. 23

York—Col. Wm. Nelson. York: John Gayle. Rob't Shield. Edward C. Howard. and Hawkins Reid.

Williamsburg—Ro. Saunders. Wm'sburg: James Southall. Littleton W. Tazewell. James Semple. and Benjamin Waller.

Tazewell—David Ward. Henry Bowen. Sam'l Walker. Henry Harman. jr. and George Perry.

Norfolk Borough—Wm. Bland, &c.

King William—John Roane. Todd's: Wm. Penn. Wm. Aylett. William Gregory. and James Ruffin.

Resolved. That this meeting do now adjourn. and that the members will again assemble at this place on to-morrow evening.

FRIDAY, 24th January, 1800.

Mr. Shields being unable to attend, Mr. Creed Taylor was called to the Chair pro tem.: and the Secretary being absent, Mr. Grief Green was appointed pro tem.

Mr. Benjamin Hatcher, a member of the Standing Committee of Richmond, has refused to accept his appointment.

*Corresponding Committees.*

For Accomack—George Layfield, Wm. Marshall, Solomon Marshall, Wm. Waterfield, and Elijah Shay.

For Amelia—Daniel Hardeway in the room of Archer Jones, Edward Eggleston in the room of John Archer.

For Cumberland—Sam'l Anderson in the room of William Daniel, Jr.

For Fauquier—Insert at the head of the Committee, Gustavus B. Horner, in lieu of Augustine Jennings.

For Fluvanna—Mathew P. Haden in the place of Joseph Haden.

For Greensville—Insert Joseph Wilkins at the head of the Committee.

For Harrison—Insert in the room of John Black, David Sluth, John Ratcliffe, and Uriah Ashcraft, the names of Jno. G. Jackson, David Hewes, Wm. Williams, and George Arnold.

For Henry—Insert Joseph Hopson at the head of the Committee.

For Lancaster—Insert Joseph Carter, Jr., in the room of John Smith.

For Loudoun—Insert Albert Russell at the head of the Committee.

For Lunenburg—Insert Joseph Yarborough in the room of Francis Eppes.

For Middlesex—In the room of Wm. Robinson insert Robt. B. Daniel.

For Nottoway—In the room of Freeman Eppes insert the name of Peter Randolph.

For Powhatan—In the room of Littlebury Moseley insert William Pope.

1800.  
Jan. 23

For Prince William—Insert Nathan Harrison at the head of the Committee.

For Richmond—Strike out the name of William McCarty and insert Griffin Garland.

For Sussex—Erase the name of John Reeves and insert the name of George Caigill.

For Dinwiddie—Edw'd Pegram, Sr., at the head of the Committee.

For Albemarle—Col. Nicholas Lewis at the head of the Committee.

For Wood—Erase Daniel Kinchaloë and insert Robert Kinchaloë.

+ For Bedford—Christopher Clarke, Liberty; Chas. Clay, Dan'l Pegram, Frayzer Otey, and Arthur Moseley.

Mr. John Courtney refuses to act as a member of the standing committee of this place, which is communicated by Mr. Pope at the instance of Mr. Courtney.

On motion of Mr. Nicholas—Resolved, That the words “the cause of Liberty” in the line of the — page be stricken out and the words Republican principles and the Constitution of the United States inserted in lieu thereof.

Resolved, That this meeting be adjourned until Monday evening 6 o'clock.

At a meeting continued and held on Monday Evening—Creed Taylor, Chairman; Sam'l Tyler, Secretary.

Ordered, For Hanover County insert in lieu of Parke Street, Bathurst Jones.

Ordered, That Joseph Selden and Sam'l Pleasants be appointed members of the standing committee of this place in room of Benjamin Hatcher and Thomas Courtney, who decline accepting that office.

Ordered, That Daniel S. Hylton be appointed a member of the County Committee for Henrico in room of Joseph Selden, elected one of the standing committee.

Ordered For Culpeper, That John Shackelford be appointed in room of Philip Rootes Thompson, chairman of the county committee, and that Moses Green be appointed in lieu of French Strother.

Ordered For Madison, That Robert Roebuck be inserted for Wm. Eve as a member of the county committee.

Ordered, That the persons named as Electors be published without delay, and in the event of those Gentlemen declining to be candidates, the Standing Committee shall be authorized in their discretion to publish the name or names of any other, having first communicated with the county committees on that subject.

Ordered, That the standing committee publish the names of the Electors in such order as they may choose.

Adjourned.

General Standing Committee in the City of Richmond:

Philip Norborne Nicholas, Meriwether Jones, Joseph Selden, Gervas Storrs, Sam'l Pleasants, Ju'r. John H. Foushee, Secretary.

1800.  
Jan. 23

After applying the several amendments and corrections to the County Committees they stand as follows—viz:

1. Accomack—George Layfield, Wm. Marshall, Solomon Marshall, William Waterfield.

2. Albemarle—Col. Nicholas Lewis, Thomas M. Randolph, Peter Carr, Francis Walker, Rice Garland.

3. Amelia—Edmund Harrison, Thomas Randolph, Daniel Hardiway, Edward Eggleston, Abram Green.

4. Amherst—William S. Crawford, Landon Cabell, Joel Franklin, Martin Dawson, Nelson Crawford.

5. Augusta—John Coulter, John Monroe, Chesley Kinney, with liberty to associate 2 others.

6. Bath—James Laird, Moses Mann, Elisha Williams.

7. Bedford—Christopher Clarke, Charles Clay, Daniel Pegram, Frayzer Otey.

8. Berkeley—Gen'l William Darke, George Hite, Thomas Rutherford, Fred. Fairfax, Dan'l Bedinger.

9. Botetourt—Martin McFeren, Thomas Rowland, Andrew Tapscott, Geo. Schelering, John H. Madison.

10. Brooke—Col. John Connel, Ro. Caldwell, Wm. McKennon, Thomas Beck, Wm. Laidley.

11. Brunswick—Sterling Ruffin, Thomas Claiborne, Wyllie Harrison, Aaron Brown, Theophilus Fields.

12. Buckingham—William Perkins, Matthew Branch, Antho. Debrill, John Patterson, John Pitman.

13. Campbell—John Dabney, Dan'l B. Perrow, Arche'd Robinson, John Walker, Edmund Winston.

14. Cumberland—Sam'l Anderson, Thomas Deane, John Hatcher, Randolph Harrison, Blake B. Woodson.

15. Caroline—James Taylor, James Upshur, John Hoomes, John Taylor, Rich'd Hawes.

16. Charles City—John Bradley, James Walker, John Colgin, Dancey Bradley, John Tyler.

17. Charlotte—Quin Morton, Thomas Spencer, Wm. L. Morton, Bernard Todd, Sam'l White, Thos. Read.

18. Chesterfield—Thomas Goode, Isaac Sallie, Thomas Watkins, M. Cheatham, W. Clarke.

19. Culpeper—John Shackelford, Philip R. Thompson, Moses Green, Lewis Conner, Mord. Barbour.

20. Dinwiddie—Edw'd Pegram, Sen'r, T. R. Robertson, W'mson Coleman, Joseph Goodwyn, Wm. Hardway.

1800.  
Jan. 23

21. Elizabeth City—Geo. Wray, Aug. Moon, Sn'r. Thomas Jones, Capt. Wm. Armistead, Samuel Selden.

22. Essex—Thos. Evans, Stretchley Rennolds, Robert Baylor, Tunstal Banks, Thos. Pitts, Ju'r.

23. Fauquier—Gustavus B. Horner, Aug. Jennings, Rich'd H. Foote, Hancock Lee, John Blackwell.

24. Fairfax—Elisha C. Dick, Roger West, Francis Peyton, Thompson Mason, Walter Jones.

25. Frederick—John Smith, Ro. Machie, Chas. Catlett, James Singleton, Wm. Headley.

26. Franklin—Henry Calloway, Moses Green, Benjamin Cooke, Sam'l Harston, Ro. Innes.

27. Fluvanna—John Quarles, Sam'l Richardson, James Payne, Mat. P. Haden, Allen Bernard.

28. Gloucester—Mat. Anderson, Rich'd Baynham, Mann Page, Nat. Burwell, Wm. Hall.

29. Goochland—Thomas Miller, James Carter, Archelaus Perkins, Wm. Miller (Clerk), Smith Payne.

30. Grayson—Philip Gaines, John Filder, Enoch Osborne, Minitree Jones, Greenberry G. McKenzie.

31. Greenbrier—John Keppers, with full powers.

32. Greensville—Joseph Wilkins, Francis Hill, John Camp, John Goodwyn.

33. Halifax—George Carrington, Berryman Green, William Terry, George Camp, Charles Meriwether.

34. Hampshire—Francis Murphy, Osborne Sprigg, John Higgins, Lewis Dunn, Andrew Mislagle.

35. Hanover—Wm. Pollard, Nathaniel Pope, Sam'l Richardson, Rathurst Jones, T. White.

36. Hardy—George Stump, John L. Schon, Henry Judea, Randolph Shobe, Edward Williams.

37. Harrison—John Webster, John P. Jackson, David Hewes, Wm. Williams, Geo. Arnold.

38. Henrico—Nat. Wilkinson, Elisha Price, Wm. Young, Geo. Williamson, Tarpley White.

39. Henry—Joseph Anthony, Geo. Waller, Ju'r. John Alexander, Peter Garland, Joseph Bouldin.

40. Isle of Wight—John Goodrich, Emanuel Wills, Francis Boykin, Rich'd Cocke, John Barber.

41. James City—John Ambler, Champion Travis, Wm. Allen, Wm. Lightfoot, Wm. Walker.

42. Kanawha.

43. King & Queen—Anderson Scott, Thomas Roane, Richard Brooke, Benj'n Dabney, John Haskins.



44. King George—John Taliaferro, Stephen Hansford, John A. Stuart, Wm. L. Flood, Aaron Thornley.

1800.  
Jan. 23

45. King William—John Roane, Wm. Penn, Philip Aylett, Wm. Gregory, John Roane, Jr.

46. Lancaster—Richard Selden, Martin Shearman, William Kirk, John Carpenter, Joseph Carter.

47. Lee—Benjamin Sharp, Peter Fulkerson, Joshua Ewing, William Ewing, Charles Carter.

48. Loudoun—Albert Russell, Rev. Amos Thomas, John Littlejohn, Thomas Jones.

49. Louisa—William O. Callis, John Poindexter, Thomas Meriwether, Robert Yancey, David Watson.

50. Lunenburg—Waddy Street, Joseph Yarborough, Christo' Robinson, Sterling Neblett, P. Lamkin.

51. Madison—Abram Murray, William Mallory, Adam Banks, Ro. Roebuck, Barnett Watts.

52. Matthews—Joseph Billups, James Spark, Henley Gayle, Thomas Brooks, Joshua Brown.

53. Mecklenburg—Richard Kennon, Mark Alexander, William Munford, Abraham Keen, Wm. Taylor, Jr.

54. Middlesex—Thomas Roane, William Segar, William George, Thomas Muse.

55. Monongalia—Richard Claiborne, David Scott.

56. Monroe—James Alexander, John Byrnsides, &c.

57. Montgomery—Daniel Trigg, Charles Taylor, James P. Preston, Daniel Howe, Bird Smith.

58. Nansemond—Josiah Riddick, Richard Yarborough, Edward Browne, Richard M. Riddick, Joseph Godwin, Sr.

59. New Kent—John Sanders, Burwell Bassett, William Chamberlayne, Robert Armistead, Edmund Parke.

60. Norfolk—Richard E. Lee, James Matthews, Josiah Butt, Robert Brough, James Bennet.

61. Northampton—Caleb Fisher, Matthew Guy, Wm. Fisher, John Elliott.

62. Northumberland—Catesby Jones, Mattram Ball, William Nemes, John A. Fallin, Thomas Hurst.

63. Nottoway—Peter Randolph, Edward Bland, James Jones, John Eppes, Peter Bland.

64. Ohio—Capt. John Morgan, Ro. Stuart, Joseph Thomelson, John Mills, Joseph McCune.

65. Orange—Robert Taylor, James Barbour, Belfield Cave, Thomas Ellis, Thomas Rose.

66. Patrick—Samuel Staples, Gabriel Penn, William Carter, Joshua Rentfro, William Banks.

1800.  
Jan. 23

67. Pendleton—Robert Davis, Daniel Capito, John Slavin, Moses Henkle, Adam Conrade.

68. Pittsylvania—Isaac Coles, Wm. Tunstall, Joseph Carter, Champness Terry, Edmund Tunstall.

69. Powhatan—Richard Crump, Sam'l Pleasants, James Poindexter, William Pope, Jordan Harris.

70. Prince Edward—Archibald McRoberts, Tarlton Woodson, Thomas Green, Theod. B. McRoberts, Sam'l Carter.

71. Princess Anne—

72. Prince William—Matthew Harrison, Benj'n Botts, Geo. Graham, John D. Orr, William Taylor.

73. Prince George—Doctor John Shore, Archibald Thweatt, Geo. Ruffin, Richard Bland, Wm. Harrison.

74. Randolph—

75. Richmond—Richard Barnes, Ezekiel Levi, Vincent Branham, Griffin Garland, Peter Rust.

76. Rockbridge—John Bowyer, James Caruthers, John Leyburne, William Moore, John Caruthers.

77. Rockingham—Andrew Shanklin, John Carthy, ju'r, Reuben Moore, Jacob Custard, Jacob Biar.

78. Russell—Nathan Ellington, Andrew Heybourn, John M. Arston, Francis Browning, Sam'l Ritchel.

79. Southampton—Henry Blow, Ephriam Gee, John Taylor, James Gee, Sam'l Blunt.

80. Spotsylvania—John Minor, Mann Page, Francis T. Brooke, John Chew, Sen'r, David C. Kerr.

81. Stafford—Col. John Cooke, John T. Brooke, Travers Tansil, Isaac Newton, John Moncure.

81. Surry—Nicholas Faulcon, Wm. Boyce, Lemuel Bailey, Benjamin Edwards Brown, Canfield Seward.

82. Sussex—W. Massenburg, John Mason, Sen'r, Nath'l Wyche, John H. Briggs, John Cargill.

83. Shenandoah—Reuben Rinker, Wm. Jennings, Philip Shangler, George Fravil.

84. Warwick—Rich'd Cary, Wm. Dudley, Wm. Diggs, William Allen, Rich'd McIntosh.

85. Washington—Francis Preston, Claiborne Watkins, Ro. Preston, Sam'l Edmondson, Andrew Russell.

86. Westmoreland—Alexander Parker, Stuart Bankhead, Sam'l Templeman, Thomas Plummer, Ransdale Pierce.

87. Wood—Harman Blannerhasset, Hugh Phelps, Wm. Louthier, Hezek. Bukey, Daniel Kinchalo.

88. Wythe—Alexander Smith, Daniel Sheffie, David Sawyers, William Davis, David Staunger.

89. York—Col. William Nelson, John Gayle, Ro. Shield, Edward Howard, Hawkins Reid. Jan. 23

90. Tazewell—David Ward, Henry Bowin, Sam'l Walker, Henry Harman, Jn'r. George Perry.

91. Williamsburg—Robert Saunders, J. Semple Southall, Littleton Tazewell, James Semple, Benjamin Waller.

92. Norfolk Borough—Wm. Bland.

—A true copy from the original papers.

J. H. FOUSHEE.

Agreeably to a contract entered into between the Executive of Virginia on the one part and Mr. James Swan, of Boston, on the other, we, the undersigned, having been mutually chosen to inspect, count and determine the relative value between a number of arms (said to consist of 4,000 stands) and a sample produced to us by the said Executive, have in conformity thereto minutely inspected, counted and classed the same in the following manner viz: Jan. 27

2,732 stands of the first class, which we estimate 50-100 less valuable than the sample: 108 stands of the 2nd class, 75-100 less valuable; 83 stands of the 3rd class, \$1 50 less valuable; 71 stand of damaged arms, \$3 less valuable per stand than the sample, provided they shall stand proof upon trial.

The total amount of arms is 3,970; of cartridge boxes is 3,959.

We also deem it our duty to inform the Executive that the greater part of the arms in our opinion, require immediate attention, as some are already damaged with rust, and others must soon be so unless some step is taken to prevent it.

WM. PRESTON,  
J. PRYOR.

I do not agree to the prices as above stated.

ALEX'R QUARRIER.

ALEXANDER QUARRIER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeably to the appointment conferred upon me on the part of the Commonwealth to value the arms furnished by Mr. James Swan, as communicated to me by a letter from you of the 7th instant, I proceeded in conjunction with Major Preston and Prior with respect to the difference of the value between the stand of arms furnished by the Executive of Virginia and those imported by Mr. Swan. Jan. 28, Richmond

I need not here mention, as it has already been reported with my dissent thereto, as my opinion as to the value I put upon them was not mentioned in the report, I think it incumbent on me now to communicate it to you, which is as follows:

1800.	Class No. 1, the difference of the value of the arms furnished by Mr.										
Jan. 28,	Swan is inferior to the stand furnished by State as a sample I com-										
Richmond	pute to be	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$2 00
	No. 2,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 50
	" 3,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 00
	" 4,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 50
	" 5,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 50

I have the honor to be, &c.

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PICKETT, POLLARD & JOHNSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 28, The valuation of the arms being now completed and a fair trial having  
Richmond been made as to the proof of them, we take the liberty of requesting  
another advance for Mr. Swan, which we assure you his necessities  
require, and which we hope you will have the goodness to grant.

We are, &c.

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MERIWETHER JONES, PUBLIC PRINTER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 29 Asking for an advance of \$200 to enable him to buy paper for print-  
ing 5000 copies of the Report.

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PICKETT, POLLARD & JOHNSON, FOR ROBERT POLLARD, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 30, We have received your favor of yesterday's date, and after consider-  
Richmond ing all difficulties as at an end respecting the unpleasant business of the  
arms, are much concerned to find that new ones have arisen, the grounds  
of which we will be much obliged to you to state to us in order that we  
may know what steps to pursue, and that we may write to Boston for  
instructions if it be necessary.

The further advance of \$15,000 that is offered, we will accept upon the  
terms mentioned in your letter, and will thank you for an order for the  
amount by return of the bearer.

We are, &c.

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J. PRIOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 30, On returning to-day after a short absence from home, I found your  
Haymarket Excellency's letter of this date containing a communication of so serious

a nature as to excite my most earnest solicitations that I may be furnished with the charge against my conduct as umpire in the valuation of arms lately committed to arbitration between the Executive and James Swan, of Boston.

1800.  
Jan. 30,  
Haymarket

As it is impossible for me to conjecture what interpretation can have been made unfavorable to me by the most critical by-stander whilst I was engaged in the discharge of that arduous and fatiguing business, the more necessary is it that I should be duly informed of the accusation.

I have, &c.

ROBERT McCORMICK & Co. TO THE GOVERNOR.

Suggesting that the am't of security for the performance of their contract—viz., Fifty-three thousand six hundred dollars, was unnecessarily great.

Jan. 31,  
Philadel-  
phia

- 24 Light Dragoon Sabers, with engraved blades, leather  
scabbards, steel mounted, - - - @ 8 Dollars.  
6 Do. Officers' Sabers, proof blue and Gilt blades, steel  
mounted and wire grips, - - - @ 20 Do.  
12 Officers' (Infantry) Swords, proof blue and gilt blades,  
strong Gilt hilts and wire grips, - - - @ 21 Do.

The above (samples of which are herewith laid before the Hon'ble the Executive for inspection) are just come to hand, and being in immediate want of money, the whole, or such parts thereof as may be selected, are offered to them for public use at the prices annexed.

It is presumed in quality and elegance according to the respective rates; no quantity of such kind of arms can be procured on terms more moderate.

I am, Sir, &c.

THOMAS HALTON TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Offering to furnish cartridge boxes at six shillings and eight pence apiece.

Feb. 4,  
Richmond

JOHN FOX TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Offering to furnish cartridge boxes at six shillings six pence each.

Feb. 4,  
Richmond

J. PRYOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Denounces charges made against him as contemptible and frivolous, and expresses his pleasure at the prospect of having an opportunity to clear himself.

Feb. 5,  
Haymarket

## WILLIAM PRESTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
Feb. 6

You will find from the enclosed certificate that I was Brigade Inspector for the year 1799, and the circumstances under which I was appointed. The duties of the office were performed by me. I exhibited my account at the Auditor's office, when it was objected to on account of the incompatibility of the two offices. I took the opinion of Mr. E. Randolph on the subject, who advised me to apply to your Board, who, he thought, would order me payment out of the contingent fund, as the duty had actually been performed, and no compensation made for it by the State. Agreeably to his advice, I submit the business to your Board, who I doubt not will do me that justice they conceive me to be entitled to.

I am, sir, with much respect, &c.

I do certify that William Preston was appointed Brigade Inspector to the 19th Brigade on the 25th day of January, 1799; that he hath executed the duties of that office in the said Brigade for that year. I further certify that previous to his said appointment, I knew that he held the office of a Commissioner of the direct tax under the Federal Government, but was advised\*, and so thought myself, that the said offices were not incompatible, as the appointment of Inspector was made previous to the commencement of the act of Assembly entitled "An act to disable certain officers under the Continental Government from holding offices under the authority of this Commonwealth."

Given under my hand this 6th day of February, 1800.

J. PRESTON, General 19th Brigade.

\* Archibald Stuart, Creed Taylor, and James Breckenridge, Esquires, were of this opinion, with whom I advised January, 1799. J. P.

Feb. 7,  
Richmond

Affidavit of General James Wood: Was present at the trial of the guns furnished the State by James Swan; considered most of them very inferior, and thought the whole contract should be set aside.

Affidavit of Alexander Quarrier: Was employed by the Executive to value the arms furnished by Mr. Swan; did not think Major Pryor, who was called in as referee, took sufficient pains to inform himself of the quality of the guns.

Affidavit of William Preston, aged 29: Had been one of the valuers of the guns and thought them in general substantially good; but he did not like the models, and considered the contract a bad one.

Affidavit of Jacob Cook: Was a gunmaker by trade, and was employed at the trial and proof of the guns furnished by James Swan; thought he

could make such arms by the quantity for ten dollars each, and before the contract with Mr. Swan, offered to contract with the Executive for a number of arms.

1800.  
Feb. 7.  
Richmond

Affidavit of John Mayo, that Colonel Quarrier told him the arms were in general very fine.

JAMES LATIMER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Consents to take charge of the land belonging to the State at Old Point Comfort: had long seen with regret the pillage and trespass committed on it: there had formerly been a tolerable growth of cedar and live oak upon it but this had been almost destroyed; the tract consisted of about three hundred acres.

Feb. 7.  
Mill Creek

EDMUND RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR.

In pursuance of your Excellency's favor of yesterday morning, I attended at four o'clock in the afternoon at the Eagle Tavern. Mr. Robert Pollard was present, as was Major Pryor also, and they were accompanied by their counsel John Wickham, and George W. Smith, esq's. Mr. Pollard, before we entered upon business, showed me a letter from the Executive, implying, that the payment for the arms depended upon the conduct of the umpire.

Feb. 8.  
Richmond

Having seen the report of their value, and being persuaded, that upon the face of it, they had not been examined in the manner which the advice of Sep'r 10, 1799, indicated, I declared beforehand, that nothing which I was about to do, was to be understood, as amounting to a relinquishment of any valid objections, which might arise from the conduct of even the other valuers. This declaration was made, as from myself, with a protestation, that it proceeded not from any suggestion of the Executive.

The depositions will be forwarded to you to day, under the inclosure of the two magistrates who took them.

Jacob Cook was first examined on the part of the Commonwealth: and once for all I freely say, that neither from his testimony, nor from that of any other witness did I collect any, the most remote reason for doubting the probity of the umpire in this transaction. But his evidence went so far in shewing, that due attention was not paid by him in the examination, that I declined the examination of any other witness, until Mr. Pollard should exhibit his.

After some time, Mr. Pollard's own counsel, called upon Colo. Quarrier, whose testimony seems to me to corroborate Cook's, and to be corroborated by General Wood's.

Major Preston was also examined on the side of Mr. Pollard. There

1800.  
Feb. 8,  
Richmond

is a difference between his testimony and that of Quarrier, Cook and Wood in some respects; but these two among other facts, which are in my judgment, very striking, occur: 1, that not more than two or three locks were taken off: and 2, that the only trial of the other locks, was by snapping them. General Wood's deposition gives birth to many other reflections, which will immediately present themselves; but if his information, founded on long and familiar experience, carries the weight, which it bears on my mind, the arms have been examined very imperfectly.

If it be expected, that I should now give an opinion, how far the report of the valuers would bind in a court of law or equity, I do not hesitate to say, because I believe, that under all the circumstances of the case, no court of law or equity would enforce the report.

I am, &c.

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CHARLES COX TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 8      Offering to paint the penitentiary for eight pence for each coat.

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ROBERT POLLARD TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Feb. 8,  
Richmond

Thinks the depositions prove that the conduct of the umpire was perfectly satisfactory, and has no doubt that the executive will grant an order for the payment of the balance due for the arms.

---

W. BENTLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 9,  
Richmond

In order to carry fully into effect at this place the Order directing funeral honors to be paid on the 22d inst. at the different military stations to the memory of our departed Chief, George Washington, General of the armies of the United States, a quantity of powder is wanting, which cannot be commanded in time from the United States Magazine. I should be happy to obtain a loan of about 500 lbs. from the State Magazine, which I engage shall be repaid as soon as it can conveniently be commanded.

It is essential that I be early informed of the fate of this application, that in the event of a failure I may devise other means for procuring it.

I am, &c.



ROBERT POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

States that his request for the payment of the balance due on the  
~~arms was inadvertently made~~, and he only wishes such advance as the  
 executive may deem proper and reasonable.

1860.  
 Feb. 10.  
 Richmond

WILLIAM BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

A law having passed the last Session of Assembly appointing Com-  
 missioners to ascertain the loss sustained by the burning of one of the  
 tobacco warehouses in Petersburg. I think it necessary to suggest to the  
 Honble Board whether it will not be necessary for me to consider the  
 money requisite for carrying into effect that Law so situated as to com-  
 pell me to reserve as much as *common report* says will be required to dis-  
 charge the claims arising therefrom. Should that be the case, the bal-  
 ance will be diminished nearly twenty thousand dollars.

Feb. 11.  
 Richmond

I submit the foregoing to your Excellency, until I shall have it in my  
 power to consult the Attorney General on the subject.

I am, &c.

EDMUND RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Thinking, as I do, that a fund raised from the inspection of tobacco  
 ought, in the first instance, to be devoted by law to the insurance of it  
 while in the warehouses, I should undoubtedly, were I a legislator, vote  
 for the application of that fund to that object in preference to every  
 other. But when you consult me on the line of conduct which you, as  
 Treasurer, ought to observe in the management of that fund, conforma-  
 bly with the existing laws, the question assumes a different aspect.

Feb. 11,  
 Richmond

The general tobacco law pledges the faith of the State for the payment  
 of burnt tobacco, but specifies no funds.

The act for compensating the sufferers at Bolling's warehouse submits  
 the payment to the direction of the Executive.

The appropriation law, after constituting a general fund for all objects,  
 selects four or five which may be so far preferred to the others as to jus-  
 tify a loan from any fund for the satisfaction of them. The tobacco fund,  
 not being excepted, is equally liable with the other funds to be borrowed  
 from for those particular objects. It will certainly be very inconvenient  
 for the sufferers to wait until October next for their money; but this is a  
 consideration which rests with the Executive alone. Their power over  
 the Treasury on all occasions is very extensive, and on this is peculiarly

1800.  
Feb. 11,  
Richmond

complete, and the exercise of it is an affair of judgment, whether the support of the civil list, the manufactory of arms, the penitentiary and hospital be less urgent, in a public view, than the claims of the tobacco sufferers.

All that you have to do will be to present a statement of the funds to the Executive, and request their order.

I am, sir, &c.

JOHN B. SCOTT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 12,  
Halifax

Submits remarks on the act of the last Assembly concerning the distribution of arms. The regulations of Congress exclude too great a proportion of people from the militia, as many under fifteen years of age or over forty-five are capable of bearing arms. Is opposed to any select or reserved corps in the militia. Thinks it a strange absurdity that Congress should direct the militia to be armed, and not make provision for arming. Understands that when all the money appropriated is expended, the State will have about 25,000 stand of arms. Thinks it would be well to distribute about 10,000 immediately. Great improvement will be made in the discipline and spirit of the Militia by their being armed.

W. BENTLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 14,  
Richmond

Agreeably to the order of the President, directing that military honors be paid at each station to the memory of our departed chief, I have received instructions to pay that last tribute of respect on the 22nd inst. Feeling strong impression that the loss of that unrivalled Hero and valuable statesman is sensibly felt by every description of citizens throughout the United States, I hesitate not to invite indiscriminately those whose local situations will enable them to unite in the procession, the order of which I have the honor now to enclose to you. The Executive is respectfully solicited to unite collectively with the Military on this lamented occasion.

I am, &c.

WILLIAM BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

*Condition of the Treasury.*

Feb. 22	Balance 22d February, 1800.	\$49,000 00		
	Am't rec'd in March, 1799.....	2,784 23	Am't disb'd in March, 1799..	\$10,386 73
	Ditto April, do. ....	3,206 61	Ditto April, do ...	24,204 06

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CONFIDENTIAL

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"In compliance with personal request made by you regarding  
the life insurance, have taken a serious view of the subject. Indeed,  
the life insurance commission have considered that the more com-  
plicated it were the financial situation of the "Trustee" of the company,  
Doubts about the complete future would be created in the public  
minds as to their consideration. In the existing circumstances it is  
as far as I have noted the amount which I suppose would actually be  
required for the purchase of the stock which we now hold, and the  
money restored in Petersburg. Should any material difference in  
money arise in the foregoing comparison between the past and subsequent  
periods of time which are brought into view, I hope the most favorable  
construction will be put on the foregoing having endeavored to ascertain  
as far as the nature of the business would admit, what would most likely  
be the result.

E. 301. 42c.

11-11-11 11-11-11

Balance of specie remaining in the Treasury this day,	\$44,463 83	March 1
22 hlds. crop Tobacco, 24,711 lbs. nett, which at the rates		
received into Treasury amounts to	1,343 00	
Transfer Tobacco,	( 1 00	
32,132 lbs. Tobacco received on account of rents of land in the county		
of Prince William.		

**William Herbert**

## SAMUEL KELLO TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
March 3,  
Southamp-  
ton

Having sent forward some time ago what the Court of this county have thought proper to say on the subject of the negroes here condemned for murder, and mentioned that I should shortly afterwards be in Richmond, I think it proper now to inform you my attendance has been prevented by the illness of one of my family. I hope, however, to be in town by the 10th or 12th of this month. In the meantime it may be proper also to mention that one of these negroes (called Sam) is dead, and it is probable from long confinement, want of clothing, and bad state of the prison, that the same fate will overtake the other two and anticipate the sentence of the law.

Most of the guards, not expecting any addition to their pay from the Court, which has heretofore been usual, have deserted their post. Two only out of six have remained, and those are retained with difficulty.

I am sorry to add that this subject has produced a degree of irritation in the Court which could not be foreseen by those who are implicated in it. The causes may in some measure be discovered from the representation lately transmitted.

I am, sir, &c.

## THOS. WHITE TO THE GOVERNOR.

March. 3,  
Spring  
Grove

The Militia of Hanover has heretofore composed two Regiments, by an act of Assembly, passed about the year 1795. The absurdity of that act is sufficiently manifested by the returns generally made in the Adj't Genl's Office, where it will appear that the number of Militia is infinitely short of the number required by law to constitute the two: in consequence of which, I requested the members representing the said county, to lay the case before the House in order to bring about a consolidation.

However the thing was not effected in consequence of Col. Tinsley's not making the return of the 93rd Reg't, according to law. The subject was again resumed the succeeding Assembly, when it appeared the Executive had the power vested in them: thus the business has remained until the present period.

I hope, Sir, before the Executive proceeds to that business. they will make an order requesting Tinsley and myself, to transmit an authentic return of the dates of the commissions, severally belonging to the officers of each Reg't.

I hope, Sir, you'll pardon the liberty introduced to you on this subject, as it is only intended to prevent that Gent. from coming before the Executive with unfair statements, as there will be a contention between us for the command of the Reg't when consolidated.

I trust whenever the business comes forward, there will be a full Board.

I have, &c.

ROBT. POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

I am informed that the proving of the arms is gone through with, and that your agent will report to the Board to-day the number that have stood proof. As there cannot be a doubt that the intrinsic value of the arms is considerably more than has been advanced on that account, permit me to request that a further advance may be made for them, something equal to what the Honorable the Executive may suppose them worth, which will be a considerable relief to the agents of Mr. Swan in Boston.

1800.  
March 8,  
Richmond

I expect to receive powers to adjust this unpleasant business. As soon as they come to hand your Excellency shall be advised, and I flatter myself it will be settled in a manner satisfactory to both parties, which will be highly pleasing to me.

For the satisfaction of those Gentlemen who are bound for the duty on the Cartouch Boxes, please to inform me whether measures have been taken to settle that business.

I have, &c.

ROBERT POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your favor of the 10th, advising of the determination of the Executive with respect to a further advance for the arms, I have received.

March 11,  
Richmond

Knowing that it will be very injurious to the agents of Mr. Swan not to receive a further payment immediately, and being satisfied that they have no other design or wish than to have the business adjusted on fair and equitable principles (but which cannot immediately be entered upon), I hope your Honorable Board will consider the subject and rescind your former determination.

I understand from Capt. Holloway that the 40 stand of arms have been proved, but that the powder with which it was done appeared to be a little wet; that a considerable number more were loaded, and after he discovered the powder to be wet, he recommended the drawing of the whole of them, not knowing whether the state of the powder would make for or against the arms, but Mr. Cook chose to fire 40 of them. I contend that as he was apprised of the state of the powder, and chose to fire the arms, that it would be improper to try them again at the risk of Mr. Swan.

I am, Sir, &c.

Bond of Joseph F. Price, agent for collection of arrears of Taxes in the Second Brigade District, filed. March 13

1800.  
March 14

*The Public Warehouses in Virginia for the Inspection of Tobacco from the 25th of November, 1789, to the 30th of September, 1799, inclusive.*

Dr.		Cr.	
To expenses from the 25th of November, 1789, to the 30th of November, 1790, inclusive.....	£1,573.01.5	By the inspectors at the different warehouses for duty, &c., on Tobacco from the 25th of November, 1789, to the 31st of October, 1790, inclusive.....	£7,106.15.05
Ditto from the 1st of December, 1790, to the 30th of November, 1791, inclusive.....	2,900.11.2	Ditto from the 1st of November, 1790, to the 30th of September, 1791, inclusive.....	8,551.04.00
Ditto from the 1st of December, 1791, to the 30th of November, 1792, inclusive.....	1,961.00.1	Ditto from the 1st of October, 1791, to the 30th of September, 1792, inclusive.....	10,127.02.06
Ditto from the 1st of December, 1792, to the 30th of September, 1793, inclusive.....	673.15.0	Ditto from the 1st of October, 1792, to the 30th of September, 1793, inclusive.....	10,318.05.11
Ditto from the 1st of October, 1793, to the 30th of September, 1794, inclusive.....		Ditto from the 1st of October, 1793, to the 30th of September, 1794, inclusive.....	9,734.03.00
Ditto from the 1st of October, 1794, to the 30th of September, 1795, inclusive.....			£45,837.10.10
Ditto from the 1st of October, 1795, to the 30th of September, 1796, inclusive.....		Ditto from the 1st of October, 1794, to the 30th of September, 1795, inclusive.....	\$152,791.81
Ditto from the 1st of October, 1796, to the 30th of September, 1797, inclusive.....		Ditto from the 1st of October, 1795, to the 30th of September, 1796, inclusive.....	15,772.28
Ditto from the 1st of October, 1797, to the 30th of September, 1798, inclusive.....		Ditto from the 1st of October, 1796, to the 30th of September, 1797, inclusive.....	10,992.83
Ditto from the 1st of October, 1798, to the 30th of September, 1799, inclusive.....		Ditto from the 1st of October, 1797, to the 30th of September, 1798, inclusive.....	12,682.78
To balance in favor of Warehouses.....		Ditto from the 1st of October, 1798, to the 30th of September, 1799, inclusive.....	11,389.78
			9,700.10
			\$213,329.58

SIR:

At the request of the Treasurer, I forward you the inclosed statement of the Tobacco fund for the consideration of the Executive.  
I am, with great respect, &c.,

Treasury, March 4th, 1800.

NAT. SHEPARD.

ROB'T POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Executive having refused to pay for the arms furnished by Mr. Swan agreeably to the report of the valuers, Messrs. Preston and Pryor, which I think Mr. Swan has a right to demand, because everything that was stipulated on his part to be done has been fulfilled; but being averse to going into a Court of Justice for redress as long as there is hopes of settling the business amicably, and being much pressed for money to replace that which has long since been advanced for the arms—

1800.  
March 18,  
Richmond

I hereby agree to settle this business by receiving the medium sum between the valuation of Messrs. Preston and Pryor and Col. Quarrier, provided the money is immediately paid, which will be a considerable sacrifice on the part of Mr. Swan, and which nothing would justify my doing on my behalf but imperious necessity. However, it is expressly to be understood that if this offer is not accepted, I shall claim for him the full amount of the valuation returned by Messrs. Preston and Pryor.

I have, &c.

JAMES BAILEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Prays for remission of fine.

March 20,  
Lexington

JAMES PRICE TO BENJ'N OGLE, GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND.

I have your favor of the 3rd Inst. respecting a negro man named Sam, who you say is under sentence of death for murder. March 20

Sam belonged to the Estate of Mr. James Hutchings. I sold him and others to satisfy a claim against the Estate. If my memory serves me right, Sam served Mr. Hutchings nearly eighteen years; from that circumstance it cannot be presumed that he claims his freedom from birth. Mr. Hutchings has made no provision in his will. It is, therefore, I cannot conceive, under what pretence he sets up his claim.

Capt. William Hurst, who lives on Kent Island, I have no doubt, can inform you of whom Mr. H. bought him. I can say nothing of his character. Mr. H. will, and what Capt. Hurst can say of his origin will remove all kind of doubt.

I am, &c.

LEIGHTON WOOD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting appointment as clerk to the Sup't of the Va. Penitentiary. March 24

## JOHN C. PLEASANT TO THE GOVERNOR.

1864.  
March 25. Soliciting appointment as chief accountant of the Penitentiary.

## G. JACKSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 26  
Pittsburg.  
Miss. I have to acknowledge yours of the 14th instant, covering the Virginia Resolutions therein mentioned. This I received with pleasure and joy, and to add these resolutions were with my entire approbation, and it was most an great Honor to its framers and the Legislature of that State. Because its reasoning, its language, and the object it has in contemplation, cannot, nor will not be held from the great American people and the political world, but as present men are blind because they will not see.

I have the honor, &c.

March 25. The official Bond of Martin Mims as the Keeper of the Penitentiary, in the penalty of Two Thousand Dollars, is filed.

March 25,  
In Council. On consideration of a Letter from Robert Pollard of the 18th instant, it is advised that he be informed that the Executive, in order to close the business, are willing to allow ten dollars (being the price at which they were once offered) per each stand of arms which shall have stood proof without injury. The expenses of such proof, except as to ammunition, to be defrayed by Mr. Swan.

Extract from minutes.

A. BLAIR, C. C.

## FRANCIS PRESTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 28,  
Salt Works. Asking for fifty copies of the Militia Laws and the same number of Stephen's Regulations for the use of the Officers of the 70th and 105th Regiments of Militia.

## ROBERT POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 29,  
Richmond. I have had the honor to receive your Excellency's favor of the 26th inst., and observe that the Executive propose to allow ten dollars per stand for the arms that have stood proof, subjecting Mr. Swan to all the



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. The first class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

2. The second class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

3. The third class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

4. The fourth class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

5. The fifth class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

6. The sixth class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

7. The seventh class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

8. The eighth class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

9. The ninth class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

10. The tenth class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

11. The eleventh class of guns is the most numerous and the most important. They are the main armament of the Army and are used in all kinds of fighting. They are the most powerful and the most accurate of the guns in the Army. They are the most expensive and the most difficult to maintain. They are the most important of the guns in the Army.

12. There are 40 guns yet unproved but no account is taken of them in the foregoing schedule.

In proving the whole importation of guns, 108 of them have been proved. The guns comprised in the foregoing schedule are well packed away and the cases well secured.

It will be necessary that all the guns be well stored in some place.

1800.      sible, or the rust that they will contract in addition to what they have  
 March 29      already contracted, will render many of them useless.

March 30      The Committee for the examination of the Land Office, report that they find the business of the office to have been conducted with due diligence and method.

That there are upwards of three thousand five hundred Platts and Certificates of Survey, on which Grants must issue in the present year and the consequent records thereof made independent of defective and caveated surveys which are suspended for the present.

That the act of assembly for returning platts and certificates of survey will expire on the first day of June next, from which circumstance a great influx of business may with certainty be counted upon.

That the Register and some one of his clerks have to examine twenty-seven Record Books of Survey, averaging about nine hundred pages, the surveys of which are much deranged in consequence of two or three Records of the same date, being carried on at one and the same time from one file of surveys. Of this number about eight or nine thousand platts and certificates of survey have been delivered to the Agent of Kentucky, after being examined by the contractor only.

They also find six clerks at present employed in the Register's Office in the following manner viz: Mr. Leighton Wood, Chief Clerk, generally employed in the current business of the office and in making out Grants and in keeping up the record of caveats.

Mr. Thomas Underwood in Recording platts and Certificates of Survey.

Mr. Thos. Williamson is making a General Alphabet upon parchment of all the Grants and Records of platts and certificates of survey and also searching and copying.

Mr. Turner Richardson in making out Grants.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Wilson Price in Recording Grants. That the Register himself keeps up the Register of Treasury preemption, military and Exchanged Warrants—the Register of Surveys received the account current of the Land Office, &c., &c.

They also find that by the act of the General Assembly, that the first clerk in the Land Office receives the sum of \$625 p'r annum, and that the under clerks whose salaries are regulated by the Executive, receive the sum of \$416 37 cents. That in the Treasury Office, there are two clerks, the chief of whom receives \$625 p'r annum, and the other \$416 37; and that in the Auditor's Office there are three clerks, two of whom receive the sum \$625 each, the other \$500 p'r annum.

Upon the whole they are of opinion that the business of the Land Office, cannot be conducted with sufficient dispatch with a smaller number of clerks for the present year; and that the salaries of the under

clerks ought for the reasons contained in their address to the Governor to be raised to the sum of \$500 each.

1800.  
March 30

AL. McRAE,  
SAM'L McCRAW.

R. WEST TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking for the support and countenance of the Executive in behalf of Messrs. Westcott, Editors in Alexandria, in the publication of a compendium of the existing Laws of a permanent nature of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

March 31,  
W. Grove

WILLIAM DABNEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Applies for the position of clerk of the Penitentiary.

April 1,  
Richmond

E. CARRINGTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

After the act of Congress went into effect which provided for the issuing of grants from the office of the Secretary of State for Military Bounty Lands due to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia Continental line, on the N. West of Ohio, application was made by the Secretary of War to the Executive of this State for a return of the names and characters entitled to such Grants. In order to comply with this request, I understand, a copy of a Register, which has been kept in the office now occupied by Mr. Coleman, of the certificates granted them, countersigned by the Governor, and carried to Land Office as authority for obtaining the warrants, was sent as the return required. A case has lately occurred, in which I am interested, of application for a grant, and on reference to the return, the name is not found thereon. Upon receiving this information, I have called at the Land office, and find there a compleat voucher, signed by Colo. Davies while in the State war office, and countersigned by Governor Harrison. Upon calling on Mr. Coleman for an explanation how such a case had been omitted in the Return to the Secretary of War, he tells me it is owing to the Register, which was copied, being very defective, arising from the office in which he is, and where it was kept, having from time to time been in different hands, by some of whom the Register was not kept. This appears, in fact, to have been the case during the time of Colo. Davies. It is therefore probable, in which opinion Mr. Coleman concurs with me, that all the cases of warrants obtained within that period, and perhaps also some others, remain unreported; of course a very great proportion of the claimants meet with impediments in obtaining their grants. He informs me that

April 1,  
Richmond

1800.  
April 1.  
Richmond

many have met with this impediment, and on individual applications have been remedied. I could also answer my purpose in this way, but the great inconvenience to others will still remain, and very probably some may consider the return formerly made as the ultimate authority to be come at and give up their claims on meeting with the first impediment.

I take the liberty, on the ground of the occurrence which interests me in the business, to suggest to your consideration the propriety of a complete return being now made to the War Office, or at least so far as will complete the former one. This it seems can be obtained from the Land Office alone, where all the vouchers are regularly filed, distinguishing on their faces Continental from State claims. It indeed appears to me that justice requires this, as the partial return has the effect of impressing the minds of those to whom it was sent, to the disadvantage of the claims not included in it. I have stated this business, as on a conversation with Mr. Coleman, appears to me its true situation, and should it, on examination, have the same appearance to your Excellency and the Council, am confident a remedy in some way or other will be thought necessary and proper.

I am, &c.

#### ROBERT QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 1.  
Abbeville

Including quarterly return of arms and military stores at the State Arsenal at Point of Fork.

*Quarterly Report of Arms and Military Stores at the Arsenal, April 1st, 1800.*

April 1

10 inch mortar, 1; brass field-piece, 1; muskets in repair, 7,171; muskets with unground bayonets, 730; artillery and grenadier swords, 900; pigs of lead, 40; canister shot, 180; cannon shot, from 4 to 6 lbs., 260; drums of cartridge paper, 30; barrels of flints, 18; pounds of ball and buckshot, 1630.

Quarter's work: Muskets cleaned, repaired, and racked in the Arsenal, 431.

#### A. BLAIR TO CAPT. COLEMAN.

April 5  
Richmond

The Council had finally decided to grant a warrant for the further sum of \$4,200 on account of the arms, and would allow \$10 per stand for those which should be proved as well as pay cost of proving. If these terms were not accepted to, Mr. Pollard must pursue his remedy at law.

Report of Martin Mims and William Rawleigh in regard to the foundations of the tilt hammer to be erected at the manufactory of arms.

1800.  
April 3.  
Richmond

JNO. CLARKE TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Inclosing pay roll of work on public buildings: Balance due Moses Bates for digging foundation of the Armory, £119.7.1; George Williamson, for Blacksmith's work for the Penitentiary, £57.13.8; Thomas and Amos Ladd for iron for the Penitentiary, £36.6.9; David Holloway and Wm. McKim for one day's service each for the Penitentiary, £2.8.0; Jas. Carney, for mason's work to the manufactory of arms, £20.0.0. Total, £235.15.6.

April 4

The Commonwealth of Virginia to Moses Bates,

Dr.

April 4

To digging and removing 4,210 yards of Earth from the Manufactory of Arms, at 14½d. per yard, £254.7.1.

THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I had the honor yesterday to receive y'r Exc'y's favor, appointing me to act with such person as may be appointed in behalf of the United States, to value the Gosport Lands. Every attention shall be paid by me to it, and I shall hold myself ready to act when any one is authorized by the President for the purpose. Whenever I can be of service in this quarter, I shall with pleasure execute any commands you may please to trust to my care.

April 4,  
Norfolk

By the death of Mr. Brooke, the late Attorney General, I am deprived of his aid in the suit of Thos. Hamilton & Co. against me for obeying the orders of the Executive of this State respecting the shipments of horses. Most of the Council are well acquainted with the circumstances; to them, Gen'l Wood, and Edm. Randolph, Esq., I beg leave to refer y'r Exc'y on this subject. I have been up three times to Richmond at a heavy expense to attend the trial, and hope that your Exc'y and Council will assist me in the defence, as it is by obeying their orders I am persecuted.

I am, &c.

LEWIS BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Application for increase of salary as second clerk in the treasury.

April 5

## THOS. NEWTON TO GEN. JAMES WOOD.

1800.  
April 8,  
Norfolk

By the death of Mr. Brooke I am deprived of his aid in Hamilton's suit *vs.* me about the horses. As the Gov'r is not acquainted with the circumstances of this suit, I shall be exceedingly obliged to you to state it to him, as it falls very heavy on me to be obliged to attend so many times for the trial. Mr. Nicholas as Attorney-General, I suppose, will take the place of Mr. Brooke with Mr. Randolph. I have just received *spe.* for witnesses to attend next Court. I shall be exceedingly thankful for your assistance. It is truly hard on an officer to be persecuted for doing his duty, but I hope we shall get the better of them.

I am, &c.

## CHAS. JOHNSTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 12,  
Richmond

Mr. Pollard being absent, he encloses a letter from Mr. Swan. If the Executive determines to extend the time for the delivery of the arms, he requests that Mr. Pollard may be informed.

HAMBURGH, 31st December, 1799.

My agent, Rob't Pollard, Esq'r, at Richmond, forwarded me under date the 11th Sept. last, your Excellencies order in council, that an appraisement be made on the arms, which was presented to you, on my first contract.

The result I have not yet learnt, but I am sure it must be very little against me, since, in all respects, the arms were as good as that of the sample; for altho' the Plate of the Lock was not so long, yet the work itself, and indeed the whole, was equally good and serviceable.

At present I have the 4,000 for the last contract now lying here, and I dare warrant, that the lock and every other thing will be found as it really is as good as the Patern. It is unhappy for me that by trying to make them equal to the Patern, even in appearance, that I was forced to have the locks made *apart* which has delayed the delivery, and as I did not receive your Excellency's order limiting the time of delivery to the 1st Dec'r last till after the time was expired, nor could I have shipped them since, as the River was stopped by the Ice the 6th cur't, I must beg your permission to deliver them the 1 June or 1 July next, as it is impossible to believe the River will be opened sooner than April. Capt. Stewart, in whom they go, can testify that they were engaged to go by him six weeks before the Ice came, and as no one else would take them, I was obliged to wait his time, which has brought them so late, as to be delayed by the Season. I beg your Excellency to believe that the diffi-

culties as to the time lost, and the little non-essential things which appear to be wanting in the arms, are no ways against the quality of the arms; and that no one, perhaps, excepting myself, would have had the patience to persevere and continue through so many difficulties as I have done. It was more I assure you, to merit your and the Government's favor for the whole, than the profits that they give, for always the most difficult is to break the road thro' the Ice and that I have done in what I have effected.

1800.  
April 12,  
Richmond

I am, &c.,

JAMES SWAN.

His Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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GEORGE PROSSER TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Requesting an increase of salary as assistant superintendent of the Penitentiary from \$350 to \$500.

April 17,  
Richmond

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Stating the necessity of procuring at an early date the cypress shingles needed for the Armory.

April 18,  
Richmond

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NAT. SHEPPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Treasurer being out of Town, in compliance with your request (communicated through Mr. Coleman), I beg leave to state to your Excellency that the balance of money now remaining in the Treasury, is twenty-seven thousand four hundred and nine dollars and sixty-nine cents.

April 18,  
Richmond

---

WILLIAM GILES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Inclosing an account for amount of loss he sustained by his brick-layers being detained from working on the Armory by the delay in the foundation.

April 19,  
Richmond

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WILLIAM PRICE TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Alphabets mentioned in yours of the 28th ultimo are now completed; they are annexed to twenty-seven record Books, averaging fully six hundred pages, and containing upwards of nine hundred Platts and Certificates of Survey.

April 24,  
Land Office

1840  
April 28  
Land Office

The work pursued in making those Alphabets was first to enter in a separate book the name of the person for whom the survey was made, the quantity contained in the survey, and the page in which the same was recorded: after which it was copied and annexed to the record Book.

The List of Military Warrants required in your letter of the first instant, is about, and will be finished without delay.

I am, &c.

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BENJAMIN HARRISON TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 26,  
Buckingham  
County

Requesting sixty stand of arms for a company in the 58th regiment, of which he was lieutenant-colonel commandant.

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BENJAMIN OGLE, GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND, TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 26

Inclosing a letter from Governor Bassett, of Delaware, in regard to the negroes convicted in Southampton county.

---

GEORGE WILLIAMSON TO THE EXECUTIVE.

April

Offering to clean arms at 50c. each, and stamp them for 12c. States that the arms stored in the Capitol had been much damaged from the way in which they were packed.

April

City of Richmond, In Hustings Court, April, 1800. Pursuant to the Act of Assembly entitled, "An Act to amend the penal laws of this Commonwealth," this Court doth appoint Dr. James D. McCaw, Physician and Surgeon of the Penitentiary House erected under the said act.

A copy—Teste:

ADAM CRAIG, CL.

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SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 2,  
Richmond

Inclosing papers of -- Schotfner, who stated that he had been a cornet in the 1st Partizan Legion and afterwards a major under St. Clair, and claimed bounty land.



ROBERT POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeing, in order to close the business, to take the following prices for arms, on condition that the money be immediately paid: 3791 stand @ \$10 each; 71 stand, damaged, @ \$8 each; 108 stocks, locks &c., @ \$3½; total \$38,838; already paid \$30,027 67; balance \$8,810 33.

1800.  
May 3,  
Richmond

SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Relating to issuing certain military land certificates. Has seen letters from Major Bedinger, which induce him to conjecture that the latter might be engaged in the purchase of claims from original proprietors, and to suspect that possibly something unfair might be practiced against the Commonwealth. Strongly doubts the genuineness of evidence adduced in support of some claims.

May 5,  
Richmond

H. J. GAMBILL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Requesting that the arms for the Rockingham county Light Infantry company may be sent from Richmond on the return of the bearer of his letter, as the expense would be less than if a wagon was hired especially for the purpose.

May 7,  
Harrison-  
burg

THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

NORFOLK, *May 7th, 1800.*

SIR:

I have this day met Mr. Wm. Pennock, who was appointed in behalf of the United States to value Gosport, and we have agreed to a valuation of twelve thousand dollars, which I am of opinion is a good price, being about \$800 per acre, which I hope may please your Exc'y.

May 8,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.,

THOS. NEWTON.

We, the subscribers, being appointed by the United States and the State of Virginia to value a parcel of land, reserved by the State of Virginia for a navy yard, commonly called and known by the name of Gosport, situated on the south branch of Elizabeth River, estimated at about twelve acres, do hereby value the said reserved land, be the same more or less than twelve acres, to be worth twelve thousand dollars. In witness whereof we have hereunto interchangeably set our hands and seals this 8th day of May, 1800.

THOS. NEWTON,  
For the State of Virginia.  
WM. PENNOCK,  
For the United States.

## ROBERT QUARLES TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

1800.  
May 8,  
Arsenal

Had written to Francis E. Harris, Quartermaster of the 102d Regiment, for the return of the arms issued to Captain Archibald McRae, of Powhatan, and has received most of them.

## HENRY HIOT TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 9,  
Norfolk

Requesting commission as notary public.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 9,  
Richmond

Giving account of his visit to Suffolk, Norfolk, and the Dismal Swamp for the purpose of making contracts for shingles for the armory. States that the best terms he could make were with Mr. Thomas Swepson, agent for the Dismal Swamp Company at Suffolk, who would deliver at Suffolk landing, shingles of the best juniper, two feet long, five inches wide, and three-fourths of an inch thick, at six dollars per thousand.

## FILMER W. MONTFORT TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 13,  
Suffolk

Acknowledging receipt of pardon for Fanny Askins.

## G. DENEALE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 14,  
Alexandria

Promising to collect the arms in the hands of the Militia of the town.

## STEVENS THOMSON MASON TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 15,  
Philadel-  
phia

I now do myself the pleasure of inclosing the bonds of Robt. McCormick, for the manufactory and delivery of the arms, and of Gen. John Shee, respecting the agency in that business. This latter gentleman will expect his instructions in due time, which should be accompanied with a copy of McCormick's bond. Colo. Nicholas and myself enquired into the business of the drawback of duties on the cartouch boxes imported by Mr. Swan for the State of Virginia, pursuant to your commands of the 2d ultimo, but find that the expected relief was not to be obtained. Mr. La Motte, the cannon founder (whose services the Executive of Virginia wished to procure), has returned to France. I can hear of no

person in this part of the country capable of discharging the services required by the State. In the last work of that kind carried on by the United States, they were aided by a Mr. McFarling from Virginia, who lives near Abingdon, and is, I think, a relation of Col. Arthur Campbell.

1800.  
May 15,  
Philadel-  
phia

I am, &c.

Bond of Robt. McCormick, of Philadelphia, dated April 5th, 1800, in the sum of \$53,600, he contracting to furnish the State of Virginia with 4,000 muskets and bayonets, according to the Charleville pattern, at a price of \$13 per stand. The arms to be inspected at the factory by an agent of the State.

Certificate of Joseph Fox, Jr., clerk of Westmoreland, that in June, 1799, the court recommended William Storke Jett, Samuel Templeman, and George Garner, for the office of Sheriff.

May 17,  
Westmore-  
land

WILLIAM BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Balance this day, \$14,032 57.

May 17,  
Treasury  
Office

THOS. R. ROOTES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Stating that at the time of the Western Insurrection he was ordered by his commanding officer (in Caroline co., where he then resided) to deliver the arms in his possession to Captain Sutton, who commanded the detachment of militia from Caroline; that he obeyed the order, and part of the arms were taken by Capt. Sutton, and part by Major Daniel Coleman at the time of writing the commanding officer of the county.

May 18,  
Fredericks-  
burg

Captain John Ervine petitions for the remission of a fine imposed for non-attendance as a juror.

May 20,  
Augusta  
County

MAJOR RICHARD CLAIBORNE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I am honored with your Excellency's letter of the 28 of March last, addressed to Mr. Stealy, Colo. Scott, and myself, accompanied with the 78 Pamphlets therein mentioned, which letter would probably have been answered sooner, collectively by us, were it not for the absence of Mr. Stealy down the Ohio and the engagement of Colo. Scott whenever I

May 20,  
Monongalia  
Glades

1800.  
May 20,  
Monongalia  
Glades

have gone up to Morgantown. Those reasons still existing, and others operating with me for my acting individually, I take upon myself to distribute a part of the papers sent by you; and I beg leave to assure your Excellency and the Council that the political opinion you have done me the honor to bestow on me in this instance, and all others you may have occasion to extend in future, will not be illy placed, and I shall use my utmost endeavors to deserve them. But it is proper for me to remark, and I do it with no small portion of concern, that from the present temper of the Inhabitants of this county (being federal) not much is to be expected from them towards Republican works—in some owing to the personal influence of a few old Residents, grown into the character of Federalism by habit or premeditation, and perhaps not just reasoning; and in others from a want of literature and a perusal of instructive productions; and this will continue to be the case untill an improved education or some competent and active Republican can effect a renovation. This stricture is, however, not meant to operate further than a political sense of the present Bias, as I am well persuaded that the Inhabitants, under the conviction of a proper information, would prove as firm friends to the Interests of their Country as any in the United States. That they may recur to the pure principals of '76, and those of a *long seven years' war*, is my sincere prayer, and shall be the utmost of my endeavors to effect.

I am, &c.

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COLONEL WILLOUGHBY TEBBS TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 21,  
Dumfries

Has collected the arms in the hands of the militia. Regards them as the worst he ever saw.

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MILES KING TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 22,  
Hampton

Under orders from the Governor to collect the arms, which had been sent him for the use of Elizabeth City county when he was an officer, he had done so and they were now in the custody of Captain George Wray in Hampton.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 23

Relating to an offer made by George Williamson to clean and stamp State arms at one shilling per stand.

COLONEL DANIEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

States that he has thirty muskets, twenty-seven bayonets and thirty-eight cartridge boxes, which were all that ever came into his hands, the balance of the seventy-two stands of arms delivered Captain Thomas R. Rootes in 1794, were, by order of Col. Philip Johnston (who then commanded the 30th regiment), delivered to Captain James Sutton who went against the insurgents with the militia of the county. Captain Sutton is since dead.

1800.  
May 26,  
Caroline

JOHN HARVIE AND GEORGE WINSTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking an advance of \$500 to purchase oyster shells that they may comply with their contract for the delivery of lime for the use of the penitentiary building.

May 26

JAMES BRECKENRIDGE, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL COMMANDING 48TH REGIMENT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Promising to collect as soon as possible the 122 stand of arms issued to his regiment.

May 26,  
Botetourt

ROBERT QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

The arms formerly issued to Captain Thomas Tinsley's company had been returned to the arsenal and cleaned and put away.

May 27,  
Arsenal

COL. DENNIS DAWLEY, OF THE 20TH REGIMENT, TO THE GOVERNOR.

The hundred stand of arms issued to the county had been collected and deposited at Kempsville in care of Mr. James Leachy, the quartermaster of the regiment.

May 28,  
Princess  
Anne

COL. WM. BENTLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Now has it in his power to return the powder loaned by the State. Lieutenant Horatio Starke would deliver it.

May 29,  
Warwick  
Camp

James Wood qualifies as member of the Council.

May 29

STEPHEN WRIGHT, MAJOR COMMANDING SEVENTH REGIMENT, TO THE  
GOVERNOR.

1800. A number of public arms were lying scattered about the county, unfit  
May 29, for service.  
Norfolk Co.

May 29 John Clopton qualifies as member of the Council.

COL. LITTLEBERRY MOSBY, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 29, Had collected several more of the muskets, &c., formerly issued to  
Powhatan Captain McRae's company.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 30 The cleaning and stamping of the arms was progressing well. The  
muskets were stamped with the name of the county and number of  
regiment.

May 30 George Williamson, in a note to the Governor, states that when he  
offered to clean and stamp the public arms at one shilling per stand, he  
did not propose to include the cartridge boxes.

May 31 Mr. Robert Boothe, lately appointed Sheriff of Sussex, is willing to  
collect the revenue for 1799 provided a reasonable time is allowed.

WILLIAM LAMBERT TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 3, I have the honor to present to your Excellency and Council the frames  
Richmond which will be delivered by the bearer.

Their value is so inconsiderable that an apology may be necessary for  
desiring their acceptance. They are, however, intended as a small testi-  
monial of the perfect esteem and respect with which I am, &c.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from William Lambert,  
together with two frames containing a construction of a total Eclipse of  
the Moon on the 29th and 30th of March, 1801, and of an Eclipse of the  
Sun on the 16th day of June, 1806, new stile, for the Meridian and Lati-  
tude of Richmond, Virginia, which he requests the Executive will accept  
as a testimonial of his perfect esteem and respect.

Whereupon the Governor is requested to present the unanimous thanks of the Board to Mr. Lambert for the present, and it is ordered that the frames be hung up in the Council Chamber.

1800.  
June 3,  
Richmond

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EDMUND RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR.

I do myself the honor of informing your Excellency that the suit in the Federal Court of Hamilton *vs.* Newton, in which I was retained by the Executive, has been again on a second trial determined in favor of the defendant.

June 5,  
Richmond

I am, &c.

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PICKETT, POLLARD & JOHNSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Requesting a reimbursement of am't paid by Messrs. Bayard & McEvers of New York, for duty on Cartouch Boxes consigned to them by Mr. Swan.

June 6,  
Richmond

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Petition of the President, Directors and other officers of the Bank of Alexandria to the Governor, for the appointment of Henry Moore of Alexandria, as a Notary Public for that city in the room of his father Cleon Moore.

June 6,  
Alexandria

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A. BLAIR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having understood that during my absence, notice was given by a member that a motion would be made on this day to remove me from the office of Clerk to the Council, (upon what grounds I am at a loss to conjecture), I feel inclined from motives of Delicacy not to be present at the decision, which I flatter myself will be sufficient apology for my non-attendance. Mr. Pendleton has promised to officiate for me. Whatever may be the result in this case, I trust there will be no objection to enter upon the Journals the motion and the grounds of it, that I may hereafter have an opportunity of justifying myself should a justification be deemed necessary.

June 7

I am, &c.

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J. MARSHALL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having been appointed by the President of the United States to the office of Secretary of State, I am no longer a representative in Congress of the District for which I was elected.

June 7,  
Alexandria

1800.  
June 7,  
Alexandria

I should have sooner notified this vacancy to you had I been certain that it would have existed.

With very much respect, I have, &c.

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At a meeting of the Commissioners of the Marine Hospital at the Exchange Coffee House, in Norfolk, the 10th day of June, 1800:

Present: President James Taylor, Thomas Newton, Josiah Parker, and E. Archer, Comm'rs.

In order to ascertain the balance due to the representatives of Robert Borland on account of the contract between the said Borland and the commissioners, the subject having been duly examined and considered, it is therefore.

Resolved, That the sum of Six thousand dollars, including interest, is due to the said contractors or representatives; that a certificate to authorize the receipt thereof be granted to the representative of the said Borland for the said sum of Six Thousand Dollars, and that James Taylor, the President, write to his Excellency, James Moore, Esq'r, Governor, informing him of the settlement made; that the terms of the act of Assembly may be complied with and be ceded to the United States according to the said act passed the 20th of January, 1798.

JAS. TAYLOR, President.

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EDWARD CARRINGTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 10,  
Richmond

I take the liberty of addressing you on a subject interesting to the Troops about to be disbanded, to whom an accommodation is necessary, which it is probable may be effected by the Executive of Virginia without inconvenience.

In order that the Troops might be fully paid up before their departure, the paymaster of the 7th Regiment brought on a few days ago a sum of money, and for the sake of portability it is in large notes of 500 Dollars each, which it was expected might readily be exchanged here. This, however, is found impracticable in private hands, and the Revenue officers of the U. States cannot safely part with reported specie, because they are constantly liable to drafts at Sight upon it. I have no doubt that if there was time for a communication with the Secretary of the Treasury, I could obtain permission to apply about 10,000 dollars now in my hands to the desired object, so far as drafts have not already issued thereupon, and it will be consistent with my instructions to apply any which will hererfter be received in taking up Bank notes of the U. States for remittance before the same may have been reported in the weekly returns.



If the Treasury of Virginia can spare a few of them, not exceeding 13,000 dollars, and it is not conceived improper to part with it for a short time, say from two to 4 or 5 weeks, a great obligation will be conferred on the U. States by a loan thereof, for which the notes may be lodged in the Treasury, and I will most certainly take them up with specie as I receive it, or can be permitted to apply what I have in hand, for which permission I will write immediately. The usual course of receipts in the office will very probably enable me to do it by the time I mention. At the instance of Col. Bentley, I have taken the liberty to make this application, and doubt not that it will be complied with if it can possibly be done.

1800.  
June 10,  
Richmond

I have, &c.

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E. CARRINGTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I had the pleasure yesterday afternoon of receiving your letter, inclosing one to the Treasurer, instructing him to advance for the purpose of accommodation to the Troops of the U. States about to be disbanded, the sum of 10,000 dollars, on the deposit of Bank Notes to that amount. This will fully answer the intended purpose, and the notes shall be taken up with specie by the first of July.

June 11,  
Richmond

The kind and friendly manner in which you and the Council of State have united in this measure is sensibly felt by those concerned, and will be duly appreciated by them as well as by myself.

I have, &c.

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WILLIAM LAMBERT TO THE GOVERNOR.

I received this morning your Excellency's letter of yesterday, communicating the unanimous thanks of the Council for the present I had the honor to make some days ago, and which has met with a reception far exceeding its merits or my expectation.

June 14,  
Richmond

Permit me, sir, through you, to assure the honorable body over which you preside, that I accept with the highest sense of gratitude and respect the valuable testimonial of polite consideration with which they have been pleased to favor me.

I am, sir, &c.

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WILLIAM BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Influenced by the idea which generally prevails, that some precautions are necessary at the present period in consequence of the disbanding of

June 14,  
Treasury

1800.  
June 14,  
Treasury

the troops in the vicinity of this place, permit me to invite the attention of your Excellency and the honorable Board to the propriety of establishing a guard at the Capitol for a short period.

I submit it entirely to your Excellency to determine whether it is a subject of sufficient magnitude to lay before their Honors, and will with pleasure acquiesce under your opinion.

I remain, &c.

---

SAMUEL DEXTER TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

June 16,  
City of  
Washington

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 24th ult., with the list of the Military Land Warrants issued from the Land Office in Virginia to the officers and soldiers (or their representatives) who served during the late war in the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment.

The order in which the list is arranged will certainly facilitate the search required in this department.

I am, &c.

June 18

The official Bond of Henry Moore as Notary Public for the Town of Alexandria is on file.

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JOHN CURD TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 19,  
Goochland

Setting forth his claim to the Sherifalty of Goochland.

June 19

Petition of Wm. H. Miller for appointment to the Sherifalty of Goochland, with numerous certificates, filed.

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RICHARD PARKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 25,  
Lawfield

Recommending Samuel Templeman for the Sherifalty of Westmoreland.

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SAMUEL TEMPLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 25,  
Westmore-  
land

Informing him of his resignation of commission as Inspector of Tobacco before resuming the duties of Magistrate.

WM. NELSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing of his issuing orders to captains of companies to forward to him the arms in the possession of said companies, which he promises to forward to Richmond when received. 1800.  
June 24,  
York

THOMAS CARTER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking instruction as to his eligibility to the captaincy of a military company while holding the office of Collector of the Revenue under the Federal Government. June 25,  
Lancaster

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking that experts be appointed to measure the mason work done by Messrs. Wise & Carney on the Armory building. June 27

NATHANIEL DARBY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of his efforts to comply with the orders for the return of arms in the hands of the military under his command. June 30,  
Northampton

ROBERT QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Transmits quarterly return of arms, &c., at the Arsenal, and estimates that \$50 or \$100 would be sufficient advance for the expenses of the garrison for the next quarter. July 1,  
Arsenal

*Quarterly Return of the Arms and Military Stores at the State Arsenal,  
July 1st, 1800.*

16-inch brass mortar, 1; brass field cannon, 1; muskets in repair, 7,175; muskets with unground bayonets, 730; artillery and grenadier swords, 900; pigs of lead, 40; canister shot, 180; cannon shot, 260; rheams of cartridge paper, 30; barrels of flints, 18; pounds of ball and buckshot, 1650.

COL. THOMAS BUCKNER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Of the fifty stand of arms furnished Captain Warner Lewis' company of artillery, he can hear of only 26 stand. If authorized to pay for their conveyance by land to Richmond, which will cost \$20, he will send them at once. July 4,  
Gloucester

1800. William Giles, a contractor for brick work at the Armory, requests an  
 July 5, advance of \$600.  
 Richmond

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July 5, Col. David Patteson informs the Governor that he will do his best to  
 Chesterfield collect the arms in the hands of the militia of Chesterfield.

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July 5, William Berkeley informs the Governor that the balance in the Treas-  
 Richmond ury is \$18,319 32.

On July 12th the balance in the Treasury is \$7,590 88.

Balance in treasury July 19th, \$7,310 72.

Balance in treasury July 26th is \$9,217 67.

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#### COL. NATHANIEL DARBY TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 6, Inclosing return of arms issued to Captain John Eyre's company.  
 Northamp- Regrets that there should be such a deficiency, but says that it was  
 ton caused by Captain Eyre being appointed to the command of a company  
 of horse, which, in part, broke up the light infantry company.

Return of arms, &c., received of Captain John Eyre, July 10th, 1800:  
 Good muskets, 35; bad 10; good bayonets, 35; good cartridge boxes, 40.

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#### COL. MATTHEW CHEATHAM TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 10, Has received no arms from Col. Patteson, late commandant of Ches-  
 Chesterfield terfield, but has been informed by him that he is using every means to  
 collect them.

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#### MARTIN MIMS, KEEPER OF THE PENITENTIARY, TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 12, Employed George Anderson Stile on the 18th of the month at a salary  
 Richmond of \$36 per month to instruct and work with the prisoners in nail-making,  
 and had also appointed Joseph Kimbrough turnkey.

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#### WILLIAM O. WINSTON TO THE EXECUTIVE.

July 12 Petition reciting that he was Sheriff of Hanover in 1787 and 1788,  
 and by the misconduct of his deputies he became indebted to the Com-  
 monwealth for a large amount, and a judgment rendered against him;  
 that he is willing to pay, but prays that there may be a stay of execution  
 until he could sell his lands in Botetourt and Campbell for a fair price.

MERIWETHER JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

I this morning received a letter from Mr. Callender, requesting me to inform the Executive, that Mr. Rose the jailor, was willing to admit him into his own house, if they considered it a part of the jail. He also stated, that Mr. David M. Randolph had informed him, that whatever might be considered the jail of the Commonwealth of Virginia, would be respected by him as such; and considered as the place of confinement for Calender under the warrant of the federal court.

1800.  
July 12

I do not flatter myself that the Executive can interpose in this business, further than to consult the Attorney-General with respect to the limits of the jail; with this view I write, and shall be thankful for an answer as soon as convenient.

I am, &c.

CAPTAIN JOHN KOONTZ TO THE GOVERNOR.

There has an nomination of Magistrates taken place in the County at our pressent July Court—I think In that nomination their Has reather been advantage taken of the Republicans—and that in this way we beet 3 aristocratic Magistrates out of thirteen that being the whole number in the County.

July 19,  
Rockingham  
Court-house

Those three where at our Last Court, and but three of our Republican Magistrates present owing as I sopose to the Court being in the H'eth of Harvest—those three arestocrats and the three Republicans Entered on said nomination—the Republicans of this Court could not carry any one point without having some one of the 3 aristocrats with them to make a majority of the Court—theirfore so that the three Republicans could get some of their Party appointed, had to Consent to the nomination of several arristocrats—and for my part think the republican cause will suffer in Rockingham County, should those arristocrats be Commissioned for that party is very Industrious, and courts in this State have much in their power as they nominate all militia officers, &c.

I feel much for the Republican Cause—my uncommon Exurtions amongst my numerous fellow-Citizens in this County, the Germans, (being of German Extraction myself and speak that Language). I have left no stone unturned to get them in a way of feeling for their rights as a part of the Sovering People of America. Have succed well amongst them—as being an old soldier in the republican cause, for in '97 when I was in the Leageslature of this State, I was then the first republican Representative from this County for some years, which the Journals of the Hous will shew. My occupation as a merchant obliged me to Decline

1800.  
July 19,  
Rockingham  
Court-house

offering the succeeding year, and have since still Got stronger in the Cause if Possible. You easily sopoase I feel myself much hurt in finding some of our Hotest arristocrats, are about Gitting in power in Rockingham, and have for that reason taken the Liberty in writing this.

I also think that a majority of the magestrates should be Pressent before a new nomination could take place.

I am, &c.

P. S.—As I am in Publick Business as a merchant, my private Business or Intrust mite suffer was it known I had wrote to the Executive against some of my arristocratic neibours, and theirfore would rather, Sir, you would not make this letter known.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

[Mutilated.]

July 23

Agreeably to your request, I have made the arrangement herein contained for the distribution of the public arms to the several counties, towns, &c., of this State, which I submit to your consideration. In all cases where I conceived an expense might be saved by water carriage, I have adopted that mode of transportation. And as most of the places where I have designed them to be deposited by the vessels in which they are to be carried from Richmond, are towns or public places to which produce from the circumjacent counties is brought by land carriages, which generally return empty, opportunities will thereby be afforded of their being cheaply distributed from those places to the respective regiments for whom they are destined. I conceive it to be indispensably necessary that some respectable resident of each place of deposit should store the arms and deliver them for distribution as they may be applied for by those who are properly authorized to receive them, which said resident (or agent) should be made accountable for the arms committed to his care, and should be reasonably compensated on his producing receipts for the delivery in good order of all the arms and accoutrements which may have been put under his agency. As soon as the arms are carried by water to any of the places of deposit mentioned in the following arrangement, information thereof should be given to the commanders of regiments in the counties for which such arms are allotted, that they are ready for delivery, who should be instructed to take the most proper steps to have the arms safely and cheaply conveyed to their respective regiments at the expense of the State.

*The Arrangement.*

Southampton 106, Sussex 67, Greenville 39, Brunswick 94, Mecklenburg 110, Halifax 155, Lunenburg 70, Prince George 40, Dinwiddie 94,

Amelia 57, Nottoway 53. To be conveyed to Petersburg by water carriage and be there deposited for distribution by land carriage. Captain John McRae.

1800.  
July 23

Surry 39. Surry Court-House. Mr. Mackintosh.  
Isle of Wight 80. Smithfield. Captain Mallery Todd.  
Nansemond 89. Suffolk. Willis Wilkinson.  
Princess Anne 88, Norfolk 115, Borough of Norfolk 52. Borough of Norfolk. Col. Thomas Newton.  
Accomac 131, Northampton 54. Ferry House on the Eastern Shore. Peter Bodoin.  
Elizabeth City 15. Hampton. Miles King.  
Warwick, York, James City. [Torn.]  
Gloucester 47, Matthews 55. Town of York. Robert Shields.  
Middlesex 31, Lancaster 36. Urbanna. Overton Cozby.  
Essex 48, Richmond 38, Northumberland 65, Westmoreland 38. Tappahannock. Lawrence Muse.  
Madison 80, Culpeper 140, King George 38, Stafford —, Fauquier —, Spottsylvania —, Orange —. Fredericksburg. Fontaine Maury.

Henry Rose recommends Major Roger West, Captain John Moss, and Nicholas Fitzhugh, of Fairfax, and Jesse Taylor and Francis Taylor, of Alexandria, for appointment as commissioners to supervise the presidential election in Fairfax county.

July 25,  
Staunton

MERIWETHER JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Has just received the paper for printing the laws of Congress, and expects to commence printing at once.

July 25

*List of Commissioners for Supervising the Presidential Election.*

Accomac—George Layfield, William Marshall, William Waterfield.  
Albemarle—Nicholas Lewis, Jr., George Divers, William Clark.  
Amelia—Major Joseph Scott, Thomas Randolph, Abraham Green.  
Amherst—Samuel Meredith, Landon Cabell, Nelson Crawford.  
Augusta—John Coalter, William McPheters, Sen., Sam'l Miller.  
Bath—John Lewis, Jacob Warwick, Elisha Williams, Sen.  
Bedford—Christopher Clarke, Charles Clay, Arthur Moseley.  
Berkeley—William Darke, George Hite, Thomas Rutherford.  
Botetourt—Martin McFerran, John H. Madison, George Skillering.  
Brooke—John Connel, Robert Colwell, Wm. McKennon.  
Brunswick—Thomas Claiborne, Sterling Ruffin, Wyllie Harrison.

July 29

1800.  
July 29

Buckingham—Charles Yancey, Wm. Perkins, Sen'r, Wm. Lewis.  
 Campbell—John Dabney, Dan'l H. Perrow, James Clarke.  
 Cumberland—Samuel Anderson, Randolph Harrison, John Hatcher.  
 Caroline—James Taylor, John Woodford, Richard Hawes.  
 Charles City—John Bradley, Collier Harrison, James Walker.  
 Charlotte—Quin Morton, Bernard Todd, Thomas Spencer.  
 Chesterfield—Isaac Salle, George Markham, William Brown.  
 Culpeper—Philip R. Thompson, John Shakleford, Mordecai Barbour.  
 Dinwiddie—Edward Pegram, Joseph Godwin, John Brown (merch't).  
 Elizabeth City—Thomas Jones, George Wray, William Armistead.  
 Essex—William Latane, Wm. Brockenbrough, Paul Micou.  
 Fauquier—Hancock Lee, Gustavus B. Horner, Augustine Jennings.  
 Fairfax—John Moss, John C. Hunter, Francis Peyton.  
 Frederick—John Smith, James Singleton, John Peyton.  
 —Franklin—Henry Calloway, Samuel Harston, Samuel Dewall.  
 Fluvanna—Samuel Richardson, John Quarles, Allen Bernard.  
 Gloucester—Wm. Hall, Mann Page, Richard Baynham.  
 Goochland—Thomas Miller, William Lee, Isaac W. Pleasants.  
 Grayson—Greenberry G. McKenzey, John Filder, Enoch Osborne.  
 Greenbriar—Samuel Brown, W. H. Cavendish, James Ried.  
 Greenville—Joseph Wilkins, Francis Hill, John Goodwyn.  
 Halifax—George Carrington, Benjamin Green, George Camp.  
 Hampshire—John Higgins, Francis Murphy, William Armstrong.  
 Hanover—William O. Winston, Nath'l Pope, Jr., Parke Street.  
 Hardy—Col. Joseph Nevile, James Parsons, Abraham Shope.  
 Harrison—John Webster, David Hewes, William Williams.  
 Henrico—Nathaniel Wilkinson, Miles Selden, Senior, Daniel L. Hylton.  
 Henry—John Redd, John Alexander, Peter Garland.  
 Isle of Wight—John Goodrich, Emanuel Wills, Thomas Boykin.  
 James City—John Ambler, Champion Travis, John Goodall.  
 King & Queen—Richard Brooke, John Haskins, William Lyne.  
 Kanawha—Thomas Lewis, William Morris, Wm. Clendenen.  
 King George—John Taliaferro, Sen., John A. Stuart, Theodo's Hansford.  
 King William—William Penn, William Gregory, James Ruffin.  
 Lancaster—Joseph Carter, Jun., Walter Shearman, Richard Selden.  
 Lee—Ben. Sharp, Peter Fulkerson, Joshua Evings.  
 Loudon—John Littlejohn, Charles Bennet, Albert Russell.  
 Louisa—William O. Callis, Thomas Meriwether, David Watson.  
 Lunenburg—William Taylor, Joseph Yarborough, Sterling Neblett.  
 Madison—Reuben Fry, Abraham Mausey, Robert Roebuck.  
 Matthews—Henley Gale, James Spark, Thomas Brooks.  
 Mecklenburg—Mark Alexander, Abraham Keene, Wm. Taylor, Jr.  
 Middlesex—Robert B. Daniel, Thomas Muse, Wm. George.



1800.  
July 29

Monongalia—Major Wm. John, Richard Claiborne, David Scott.  
Monroe—James Alexander, John Byrnsides, Alexander Stuart.  
Montgomery—Daniel Trigg, Charles Taylor, Bird Smith.  
Nansemond—Robert M. Reddick, Richard Yarborough, Joseph Godwin, Senr.

New Kent—William Chamberlaine, James Semple, Robert Armistead.  
Norfolk—Richard E. Lee, Robert Brough, James Bennet.  
Northampton—Caleb Fisher, Matthew Guy, John Elliott.  
Northumberland—William Claughton, Hiram Opie, Thomas Downing.  
Nottoway—Francis Fitzgerald, Edward Bland, Grief Green.  
Ohio—William McKinley, Henry Sineth, Joseph Tomlinstone.  
Orange—James Williams, Robert Taylor, Catlett Conway.  
Patrick—Joshua Rentfro, Joseph Stoval, Jesse Corn.  
Pendleton—Robert Davis, John Slavica, Jesse Henkle.  
Pittsylvania—Isaac Coles, Wm. Tunstall, Joseph Carter.  
Powhatan—Samuel Pleasants, Richard Crump, William Pope.  
Prince Edward—Archibald McRoberts, Tarleton Woodson, John Kelso.

Princess Anne—Adam Keeling, Thos. Wishart, Jr., Joseph White.  
Prince William—Benj. Botts, George Graham, John D. Orr.  
Prince George—John Shore, Richard Bland, George Ruffin.  
Richmond County—Ezekiel Levi, Vincent Bramham, Griffin Garland.  
Randolph—John Haddon, Allan Lee, Matthew Whitman.  
Rockbridge—John Bowyer, Andrew Reed, John Carnthey.  
Rockingham—Andrew Shanklin, John Carthy, Reuben Moore.  
Russell—Simon Cockrel, John M. Estell, Nathan Ellington.  
Southampton—Wm. Edmonds, James Wilkinson, John Taylor.  
Spottsylvania—John Minor, Mann Page, Daniel Kerr.  
Stafford—Col. John Cooke, John T. Brooke, Robert Henning.  
Surry—Cawfield Seward, Nicholas Falcon, Wm. Boyce.  
Sussex—John Mason, Sen'r, Jno. H. Briggs, John Cargill.  
Shenandoah—Jacob Rinker, Wm. H. Dulaney, James Allen.  
Tazewell—David Ward, Henry Bowen, Samuel Walker.  
Warwick—Matthew Wills, Wm. Diggs, Wm. Allen.  
Washington—Francis Preston, Claiborne Watkins, Robert Preston.  
Westmoreland—Alex'r Parker, Thos. Hungerford, Thos. Plummer.  
Wood—Hugh Phillips, Rees Wolfe, Daniel Kinchalo.  
Wythe—Alexander Smith, Daniel Sheffie, David Sawyers.  
York—William Nelson, Robert Sheet, William Howard.  
City of Williamsburg—Jas. Southall, Littleton Tazewell, Ro. Saunders.  
City of Richmond—Wm. Duval, Alexander Quarrier, David Lambert.  
Norfolk Borough—Wm. Bland, Thos. Newton, S'r, Samuel Coleman.

## COL. THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
July 30,  
Norfolk

Promises in case of need, to do all in his power to maintain an effective quarantine. There have been several deaths in Norfolk within two days past, but have been caused, he thinks, from the heat or from the situation in which those who died had lived, most of the deaths occurring in Water and Commerce streets, which are very closely settled. Believes the disease was of a violent bilious kind.

## COL. REUBEN BEALE TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 30,  
Beale's  
Farm  
Madison Co.

Through some error, Capt. Lightfoot's commission has been misdated. Hopes that the Governor will give him his proper rank as he is a gentleman much respected, and a good officer, and unless his rank can be established will resign.

## JAMES SPARK TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 2,  
Mathews Co.

Representing his claims to the Sheriffalty of Matthews county.

MATTHEWS COUNTY, *June Court, 1799.*

Milton Glascock, Francis Armistead, and James Van Bibber, Gent., are by the Court recommended to his Excellency the Governor as fit persons to execute the office of Sheriff of this county for the ensuing year, and it is ordered that the Clerk certify the reasons why James Spark, Gent., is not nominated in this recommendation.

A copy—Teste:

JOHN PATTERSON, C. M. C.

In obedience to the above order, I do certify that at the time the Court made the above recommendation, a question was made whether James Spark, Esq., commissioned as a magistrate previous to either of the above gentlemen, should not be recommended as a proper person to exercise the office of Sheriff. Objection was made that although Mr. Spark was commissioned before the gentlemen above recommended, he never qualified until some time after the qualification of Mr. Glascock as Sheriff. The Court therefore determined that the case should be left to the Executive to determine.

Signed by

JOHN PATTERSON, C. M. C.

PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Major Coleman communicated to me in his letter of the 2nd instant your wish for a written opinion upon the case of Mr. Thomas Carter, as stated in his letter to you of the 25th ultimo. 1800.  
August 3,  
Richmond

I have prepared my opinion conformably to your request, which you will receive enclosed.

I am, &c.

The case submitted to my consideration by the Governor is whether a collector of the Revenue Tax under the United States, is excluded by an act entitled an act to amend an act entitled an act to disable certain officers under the continental Government from holding offices under the authority of this Commonwealth, from serving as a militia officer under the Commonwealth of Virginia? The words of the act of Assembly are very broad and comprehensive, it being therein declared "that no person holding or accepting any office or place, or any commission or appointment whatsoever, civil or military, under the authority of the United States, whether any pay or emolument be attached to such office, place, commission, or appointment or otherwise, or accepting or receiving any emolument whatsoever from the United States, shall be capable of being elected to or of holding any office legislative, executive, or judicial, or any other office, place, or appointment of trust or profit under the Government of this Commonwealth."

It appears to me, that the case submitted comes precisely within the provision of the acts in as much as a collector of revenue holds a place and appointment under the United States, and receives an emolument therefrom, and also because an officer in the Militia falls obviously within the description of a person holding an office, legislative, executive or judicial, or any other office, place, or appointment of trust or profit, under the government of this Commonwealth. I am therefore, of opinion that a person who is a collector of the Federal revenue, is incapable of being elected to, or of holding the appointment of captain, or any other appointment in the Militia of this Commonwealth.

This opinion is founded upon an attention to the letter of the Act of Assembly, and is confirmed by a consideration of its genuine spirit, and of the policy by which it was dictated.

PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS.

Richmond, Aug. 2nd, 1800.

WILLIAM PRICE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking permission to purchase two Franklin Stoves for the use of Land Office. August 5,  
Land Office

## JOHN SHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
August 7,  
Philadel-  
phia

Commending the zeal of Robert McCormick in fulfilling his contract for manufacturing arms.

## J. GRAMMER TO AUGUSTINE DAVIS.

August 9,  
Petersburg

I have thought proper to mention to you that some whispers have been heard here within a few nights past indicating some plan of an insurrection among the blacks, it is said, intended to-night or some Saturday night. The evidence is not sufficient for any steps to be taken publicly, nor is it publicly known here, but are such as to render it perhaps prudent that the citizens should be on their guard and take such steps as may most likely lead to a detection if such a thing should be really in agitation.

It is probable if such a thing is in agitation here, that it extends to your place likewise. I mention it that you may be on your guard.

Please to procure from Mr. Collins, and send me by the stage on Monday or Tuesday, 4 oz. Norfolk Turnips, 2 oz. Hanover Turnips.

Yours respectfully.

## DR. JAMES McCLURG TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 10,  
Richmond

The intelligence was received by Mr. Davis in a letter from the Postmaster at Petersburg, and communicated last night by Mr. Davis to me.

It appeared to be vague and uncertain; stated that there were whispers of an intended insurrection among the negroes at Petersburg to take place on last night or on some Saturday night, and that the information was intended to put the citizens of Richmond upon their guard, as the scheme might extend to this place. At that time of night I thought it best to apply to Capt. Austin, of the Horse, and Lieut. Dunmore, of the Light Infantry, and request that they would form a patrol for the night from their companies.

The latter remained with Capt. Austin, who intended to communicate it to the commanding officer of the Militia, that he might direct necessary patrols.

This prevents me from forwarding the original communication to your Excellency.

I am, &c.

WALTER JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

During my service in Congress from 1797 to 1799 the claim to be High Sheriff devolved upon me according to the common routine in county courts. I then waived my claim, and Mr. Fallen, next to me in seniority, took a commission, and is now Sheriff. So early as August last, and in my absence, a motion was made for recommendation of persons for the Sheriffalty.

1800.  
August 10,  
Kinsale

My claim was entirely disregarded, and two Junior Magistrates, Messrs. Gordon and Nelson, named for commission. The same thing has been repeated the last of June, altho' some of the Court remonstrated against the measure in my behalf. I now solicit the office at your honorable Board, and request you to do me the favor to lay my petition before them. The records of the council will show the station of the Justices in respect to seniority.

I am, &c.

JAMES ALLAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

I am informed the yellow fever or some contagious disorder is now raging in Norfolk, and numbers are dying with it daily.

August 13,  
Fredericks-  
burg

The inhabitants of this place appear to be alarmed for their safety. I was sent for by the Common Council for this corporation to day, to know if I had any authority to make examination on vessels coming from Norfolk. I informed them that I had not, as I know of no proclamation of the Executive to this effect, but I promised to write to you as Superintendent of Quarantine, and on hearing from you would comply with my instructions and remain,

Your, &c.

G. DENEALE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Relating to the return of arms loaned to the Corporation of Alexandria.

August 16,  
Alexandria

JOHN SHEE TO GEO. HAY.

Relating to the contract of Robert McCormick, of Philadelphia, for making arms for the State.

August 17,  
Philadel-  
phia

CHAS. STIMPSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending the establishment of a hospital at Jordan's Point for the reception and cure of infectious diseases.

August 20,  
City Point

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 RICH'D E. LEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
August 20,  
Norfolk

Your favor of the 29th July was this day received. The several letters committed to my care shall be delivered without delay, except those directed to Col. Josiah Bull and Joseph White, who are dead.

I assure you that I accept with pleasure the appointment you have conferred on me, and that I will, as far as my ability and judgment permit, execute the important trust with fidelity and alacrity.

I have no doubt of the difficulty in selecting proper persons to execute the trust of Commissioner in the county of Princess Anne, as most of the influential men in that county are in favor of Adams' Administration. I therefore beg leave to observe that Thos. Wishart, Jr., belongs to that class; Joseph White dead; Adam Keeling the only one that can be relied on. It may, therefore, be necessary to make another appointment.

Under this impression, I shall delay delivering the letters directed to the Princess Anne Commissioners until I hear from you, and beg leave to name the following persons if another appointment is to be made: First, Adam Keeling, Lemuel Cornick, Sen'r, and Jonathan Woodhouse. You will be pleased to direct what is to be done with the letter directed to Col. Josiah Britt.

I have, &c.

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 CULPEPER COUNTY, *Set*:

I do hereby certify that Robert Ware Peacock, attorney at law, has attended this day on behalf of the Commonwealth at the Court House of this county at my request, upon an Inquisition of Escheat, which Inquisition was found unanimously in favor of the Commonwealth, declaring that four hundred acres of Land in this county, whereof Edmund Harell died seized, are escheatable to the Commonwealth.

Certified this 20th day of August, 1800.

AUG'N GREEN, Escheator.

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## THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 22,  
Norfolk

The fever prevailing here proves fatal to many strangers and those unused to this climate. I am fully convinced that it is not imported; the old Inhabitants are as healthy as common at this season of the year. It has mostly fallen on Europeans; some few natives of the country have been sick, and but a small number have died. Whether the disease communicates, I am much at a loss to know, as in no instance I have heard of, the country people, who resort to our markets, having taken it.

Having but very little wind, and much sultry weather, I believe to be the great cause of our sickness more than any other.

1800.  
August 22,  
Norfolk

Your Excellency's favor respecting the arms I received, and will be attended to. I have also received the appointment of Commissioner for holding the Election of Electors for President and Vice-President. I shall attend thereto, but should much rather have attended the County Election, as being better acquainted, having served as member thereof, but a few years' exceptions, near 34 years.

I am, &c.

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THOMAS CLAIBORNE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th ulto., covering a commission, to the which you have honored me with your confidence, to conduct the election of the Electors to choose a President and Vice President of the United States, which commission I do accept with pleasure, and will execute with as much accuracy as my best ability will admit, for I am well sensible that on the faithful execution of it the sovereignty of the State and liberties and happiness of the American people essentially depends. In fact I believe, sir, that unless Jefferson is elected, our liberty and happiness will be in jeopardy, and altho' I will discharge the trust reposed in me with perfect uprightness, my tongue cannot be tied, nor am I deprived of the liberty and enjoyment of my political sentiments and wishes, which I shall cherish and promote by every legal and fair means. If I am not at liberty to do this my appointment is a misfortune, but I see nothing in the law or commission that prohibits me from expressing my political sentiments in public and private.

August 22,  
Brunswick

You will excuse the freedom which my old acquaintance and friendship for you emboldens me to take. I have a confidence that the honorable station to which I thank my country for promoting you, will not render a line from your old Republican friend unacceptable or offensive. Permit me therefore to inform you, which I do with pleasure, that the glorious spirit of Republicanism is reviving here. The Kingdom of Belial is suffering loss, and the faithful sons of liberty are fattening upon the spoils of their triumph.

For a while, sir, I had to encounter all the insults of the then triumphing partizans of John Adams; the — war that armed him with his beloved army and navy made them insolent, but time and events favorable to the faithful and to liberty, are daily unnerving the arm of aristocracy and ambition.

O, how are the mighty fallen!

My prospects appear fair for the ensuing election to Congress, for which

1800.  
August 22,  
Brunswick

I am a candidate. Health and fraternity. and with every sentiment of friendship and esteem, I am, sir,

Your, &c.

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GEORGE HAY TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 22,  
Petersburg

Endorsing the recommendation for a hospital to be established at Jordan's Point.

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JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 25,  
Quincey

On Saturday I received the letter your Excellency did me the honor to write me on the 11th of this month, informing me that the Legislature of Virginia by a law passed in 1798, authorized its Chief Magistrate to cede to the United States the Marine Hospital at Norfolk, on condition they pay the contractor the balance which was then due him by the commissioners, under whose authority he had undertaken and in part executed the buildings.

I thank your Excellency for this communication, which I shall refer to the Secretary of the Navy for his report, as to him your Excellency has transmitted the act and account. As soon as the subject can be examined and considered, your Excellency will be informed of the result.

With great respect, &c.

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA TO JOSEPH HARDING.

August 28

Granting him a commission as Superintendent of Quarantine at the port of Petersburg.

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JOHN DAVIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 28,  
Richmond

Proposals for manufacturing 1,000 stand of arms at thirteen dollars and one-third per musket, at Morgan Town.

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CITY OF RICHMOND,  
In Common Hall, August 28th, 1800.

August 28,  
Richmond

Whereas, it is possible that some persons may come into this city infected with the yellow fever or other contagious disorder, notwithstanding all the precautions that may be taken to prevent it—



Resolved, That the Mayor be requested to represent to the Executive of the State of Virginia the propriety of erecting an infirmary in some convenient place for the receiving and taking care of any persons that may come to this city and its vicinity thus infected.

1800.  
August 28,  
Richmond

A copy—Teste:

ADAM CRAIG, C. C. H.

CITY OF RICHMOND,  
In Common Hall, *28th August, 1800.*

The Mayor laid before the Hall a letter from his Excellency the Governor, suggesting the propriety of this Hall's taking into consideration the necessity of falling upon some expedient to prevent the introduction by land of the contagious fever now prevailing in Norfolk into this city, which letter being twice read and seconded:

Resolved, That the corporation of Richmond will cheerfully co-operate with the Executive of Virginia in any measures that may be thought advisable for preventing the communication by land of any contagious disorder that may now exist in Norfolk or any part of the State, or elsewhere, and that the Mayor be authorized and requested, and he is hereby authorized and requested, to wait on his Excellency and inform him that he is prepared on behalf of the corporation, to concert such measures with the Executive.

A copy—Teste:

ADAM CRAIG, C. Co. Hall.

JOHN BECKLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending Mr. Wm. McLaws as a manufacturer of articles of soldiers' equipment, such as belts, cartridge boxes, scabbards, &c.

August 28,  
Philadelphia

GEO. HAY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending Wm. Durell as Superintendent of Quarantine for the port of Petersburg in the room of Mr. Harding, who declines the appointment.

August 29

MILES KING TO THE GOVERNOR.

Promising return of arms, also a valuable twelve-pounder cannon belonging to the State.

August 29,  
Hampton

Opinion as to the danger to be apprehended of contagious disease by mail boats from Norfolk.

## THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
August 29,  
Norfolk      Relating to the exaggerated accounts of sickness at Norfolk, and enclosing statement of William Sharp of eleven deaths from Monday morning to Friday night.

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## ANDREW TORBORN TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 30,  
City Point      Recommending Thomas Wilcox as Superintendent of Quarantine at Jordan's Point.

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## MOSBY SHEPPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 30,  
Richmond      I have just been informed that the negroes were to rise (as they term it) in the neighborhood of Mr. Thomas H. Prosser's and to kill the neighbors, viz: Major Wm. Mosby, Thomas H. Prosser, and Mr. Johnson; from thence they were to proceed to town, where they would be joined by the negroes of this place (Richmond), after which they were to take possession of the arms and ammunition, and then take possession of the town.

Here they stopped, appearing much agitated.

I then asked them two questions, viz: When was it to take place? Answer—To-night. Who is the principal man? Answer—Prosser's Gabriel. I have given you the substance of what I have heard, and there is not a doubt in my mind but what my information is true, and I have given you this information in order that the intended massacre may be prevented if possible.

I am, with due respect, &c.

N. B.—I will here recite to you the manner in which I got this information. I was sitting in the counting-room with the door shut, and no one near except myself; they knocked at the door, and I let them in; they shut the door themselves, and then began to tell what I have before recited.

M. S.

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## JOS. HARDING TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 30,  
Petersburg      Declining the commission of Superintendent of Quarantine for the port of Petersburg.

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August 30,  
Richmond      Petition of owners and masters of vessels for the selection of a point of land opposite to Warwick for the location of an hospital, instead of Jordan's Point, appointed by the proclamation for a Quarantine post.

THO. T. DAVIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

The bearer hereof is Will Shepherd, on whose business I had the honor of receiving a letter from you last winter. He now comes to draw his pension. 1800.  
August 30,  
Mercer Co.

Our remittances from New Orleans have been better this summer than formerly, though the price of produce is still fluctuating, and we trade at great hazard.

A large portion of the people of Kentucky keep right as to political opinions, though there are some among us who try to mislead, to wit: the Marshall and McDowell families and their several branches. Their influence is but small. There is no doubt but Mr. Jefferson will get every vote from this State in the Presidential Election.

I am, &c.

FRANCIS BAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

The enclosed advertisement must plead my excuse for my present address. I have not the pleasure of being personally acquainted with you, nor is it at all requisite to forward my appeal to your heart, being fully satisfied with your character that you are a friend to justice, an advocate for humanity, and the equal rights of men. August 31,  
Caroline Co.

I was struck with horror on reading the enclosed advertisement. It appears that the unfortunate criminal ordered for execution on the 5th of Sep'r is deprived of the notice of his Master—of the assistance of any one who may have known his general character and spoken in his favor. These unfortunate circumstances will make him an object of your pity as well as of mine, I am convinced. If you will grant his pardon I shall ever be sensible of the obligation. As a christian, I cannot resist the impulse of my feelings to make this request. I am entirely disinterested, not knowing the master of the slave, nor has any application ever been made to me in behalf of the unhappy culprit.

I shall hope, if you incline to favor my request, that you will immediately take the necessary steps towards the revocation of the sentence finally passed. If he is not an old offender, I will hope that he may yet be reclaimed through the extension of your mercy. I had supposed that the Penitentiary House was erected for the confinement of all criminals; certainly it is not intended to preclude that most unhappy race of people from benefits which I blush to think has too long been withheld. "God is no respecter of Persons"; the black and yellow are equally objects of his care with whites.

I remain, Sir, with profound respect, your, &c.

JOHN SHEPHERD KERR, MAJOR 99TH REG'T, TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
Sept. 1,  
Accomac

At the request of Col. Charles Stockley, he forwards four boxes of arms and accoutrements heretofore distributed to the 99th regiment.

Invoice of arms and accoutrements forwarded by Mr. John Custis: 121 firelocks, 99 bayonets, 70 cartridge boxes.

COL. THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 2,  
Norfolk

Inclosed is a list of persons who died since the last return I made and the new cases. The fever still prevails among those who have lately come here, and the old inhabitants continue healthy. I do not hear of any instance of its communicating to the market people.

The continuance of moist, hott and sultry weather causes it to be very sickly among strangers. On Saturday we had a heavy rain, and on Sunday some wind, which we were in hopes would have been of advantage, but it proved otherwise. The wind continues to the S. E., where it had prevailed mostly for six weeks, I believe is a great cause of the decrease.

I am, &c.

50 new cases and 10 deaths, all of the prevailing fever, since five o'clock Friday evening last.

WM. SHARP.

Sept. 1, in the evening.

WILLIAM NELSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 2,  
York

Recommending Wm. Morgan for quarantine officer at York, and that the quarantine ground should be the middle of the river opposite the mouth of Wormeley's Creek.

PICKETT, POLLARD, AND JOHNSTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 2,  
Richmond

Announce the arrival at Rocketts of 3 cases (60 stand) of arms of Swan's last contract.

DR. WM. FOUSHEE TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Sept. 2,  
Richmond

States that the Sunday before, he rode down to Dr. Heveningham's with Captain Mulford and endeavored, unsuccessfully, to obtain from him a site for a temporary marine hospital. A vessel is lying at Rocketts, which he suggests could be hired and fitted up with rooms on deck, which would serve very well for a hospital.

Archibald Eppe, writing to the Governor, states that the inhabitants of City Point are greatly alarmed lest the yellow fever be introduced, and requests that Mr. Wilcox may be appointed quarantine officer.

Sept. 5.  
City Point.

COL. THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Hope the disease is declining—the present cool weather will be of great service. Meal, in consequence of intercourse being stopped, has been sold to the poor at high prices, to save a basket.

Sept. 6.  
Norfolk.

JOHN SHEP TO THE GOVERNOR.

Announcing that the first delivery of muskets under the McCormick contract had been made on the date of writing.

Sept. 6.  
Philadel-  
phia.

JAMES ALLAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Since receiving the proclamation he had strictly enforced quarantine on the river. On the schooner William and Mary, 13 days from Norfolk, two men, for whom he had called in Dr. James Carmichael, had died at the quarantine ground.

Sept. 6.  
Fredericks-  
burg.

TO CARRIERS.

The Board advise the Governor to call out such proportion of the militia of the counties of Henrico and Chesterfield, and of the City of Richmond, as he may think proper upon the present emergency.

Sept. 6.  
Richmond.

Extract from Minutes.

A. BLAIR, C. C.

Martin Mims requests the Governor's opinion as to the advisability of employing additional guards at the Penitentiary.

Sept. 6.  
Penitentiary.

AMOS ALEXANDER, MAYOR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

There have been some cases of yellow fever in the town; but only of such persons as brought it with them from Norfolk. Several have died at the quarantine station.

Sept. 6.  
Alexandria.

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 WM. BANKHEAD TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
Sept. 6,  
Port Royal

Recommending Watts Parker for quarantine officer.

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## PICKETT, POLLARD &amp; JOHNSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 8,  
Richmond

Have examined one case of the arms recently arrived, and do not hesitate to say that they are not equal. Request that the Governor will examine them, and inform the firm whether they are such as the State would wish to purchase. If they are, will sell them at a fair price.

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## W. BENTLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 8,  
Manchester

Since the receipt of yours of the 6th date, recommending the removal of the arms that were of my Regiment, to the Penitentiary, I have been diligently enquiring into the grounds of the alarm excited on this side of the river and which rendered the measure recommended by you, as necessary; after making these researches, I am fully of an opinion, that no real cause ever existed; the people of color from this place through Powhatan up to Cumberland, are in such a perfect state of quietude, that the circumstance of an insurrection among them is known to but few, and to those few only as a report coming from this place. I am now perfectly satisfied, that either the keeping of a guard, or removing the arms, is unnecessary. However, if you are still of opinion that the public safety requires it to be done, I will give the storekeepers directions to do it, though to my mind it is unnecessary.

I am, &c.

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## GERVA S STORRS AND JOSEPH SELDEN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 8

This is to certify that we were examining magistrates in the case of the negroes charged with conspiracy and a design to rebel against the white people; and from every incident which appeared at the examination, we do not hesitate to say that Gabriel, the property of Thomas H. Prosser, of Henrico county, was clearly proven to be the main spring and chief mover in the contemplated rebellion.

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## RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON HALL.

Sept. 9,  
Richmond

Resolved, as the opinion of the Hall, that from information communicated to them, there is reason to believe two black people in particular

(whose names it is thought improper at present to spread upon the record) are deeply involved in the guilt of the intended insurrection, and capable also of giving very general information respecting their accomplices.

1800.  
Sept. 9,  
Richmond

Resolved, That the names of these be communicated by Mr. Foster to the Governor, together with the request of the Hall that they be apprehended as soon as possible.

Copy—Teste:

ADAM CRAIG, C. C. H.

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JOHN SHEE TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Inclosing bill lading for two chests of arms shipped to Richmond.

Sept. 10,  
Philadel-  
phia

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Return of muskets, bayonets, and cartouch boxes of 2d Regiment of Militia, shipped to Richmond from Accomac county: 94 muskets, 73 bayonets, 69 cartouch boxes.

Sept. 10

JNO. CROPPER, JR.,

Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Second Regiment.

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ELISHA C. DICK TO THE GOVERNOR.

A day or two after the receipt of the Governor's proclamation, Captain Butler's packet arrived at the quarantine ground from Norfolk with twenty persons on board. On the night after, one of them died of the yellow fever, and four or five being ill, a house at the extreme end of the point had been procured for a hospital. Two more of the sick died a few days later.

Sept. 10,  
Alexandria

He has asked the corporate authorities to interdict all communication with Baltimore.

The inhabitants of Alexandria for the two or three preceding weeks as usual. Bilious, intermittent and remittent fevers are more prevalent.

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MATTHEW CHEATHAM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Had received the orders for calling out the militia of Chesterfield, and as soon as the men could be collected in Manchester and the requisite orders given, would send one hundred to Richmond.

Sept. 10,  
Manchester

## THE GABRIEL INSURRECTION.

1800  
Sept. 11.  
Henrico.

At a court of Oyer and Terminer, called and held for the county of Henrico at the Courthouse, on Thursday the Eleventh day of September, 1800, for the trial of Michael alias Mike, a negro man slave the property of Judith Owen of the said county, charged with conspiracy and insurrection.

Present: Daniel L. Hylton, Miles Selden, Bowler Cocke, Henekial Henley, Benjamin Cooke, Pleasant Younghusband and George Williamson, Gent. Justices.

The said negro man Michael alias Mike, was set to the Bar in custody, and being arraigned of the premises said he was in nowise guilty of the crime with which he stands accused, whereupon sundry witnesses being charged, sworn and examined, and the prisoner heard in his defence by James Rind, Gent., counsel assigned him by the court, on consideration whereof, it is the opinion of the court that the said Michael alias Mike, is guilty of the crime with which he stands charged, and for the same that he be hanged by the neck until he be dead, and that execution of this sentence be done and performed on him the said Michael alias Mike, on tomorrow, being the twelfth instant, at the usual place of execution. The court valued the said slave at one hundred pounds.

The minutes of the foregoing trial and proceedings were signed by the above named justices.

A Copy—Teste:

ADAM CRAIG, C. H. C.

Henrico County Court, on September 11th, sentences John, a negro man slave, the property of Mary Jones, of Hanover, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders that he be hung at the usual place of execution on the 12th inst.

Henrico County Court, on Sept. 11th, sentences Solomon, a negro man slave, the property of Thomas H. Prosser, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders that he be hung on the 12th instant at the usual place of execution.

Henrico County Court, on September 11th, sentences Nat, a negro man slave, the property of Anne Parsons, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders that he be hung on the 12th instant at the usual place of execution.

Henrico County Court, on September 11th, sentences Isaac, a negro man slave, the property of Wm. Burton, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders that he be hung on the 12th instant at the usual place of execution.



Henrico County Court, on September 11th, sentences Will, a negro man slave, the property of John Mosby, Senior, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders that he be hung on the 12th instant at the usual place of execution.

1800.  
Sept. 11.  
Henrico

*Evidence Against the Negroes Tried September 11th.*

*Solomon's Case.*—Ben, the property of Thos. H. Prosser, deposed: That the prisoner at the bar made a number of swords for the purpose of carrying into execution the plan of an insurrection which was planned by Gabriel, a negro man, the property of said Prosser, and that the said Solomon was to be Treasurer. In the first place, Mr. Prosser and Mr. Johnson were to be killed and their arms seized upon; then they were to resort to and kill all the White Neighbours. This plan to be executed on the Saturday night on which there was such a great fall of rain. The place of meeting was near Prosser's Blacksmith's shop in the woods. After Murdering the Inhabitants of the Neighbourhood, the assembly were to repair to Richmond and Seize upon the Arms and Ammunition—to-wit, the Magazine. Gabriel was to command at commencement of the business. The swords made by the prisoner were to be distributed by s'd Gabriel; swords have been making ever since last Harvest. 1,000 men was to be raised from Richmond, 600 from Ground Squirrel Bridge, and 400 from Goochland. Meetings were frequently held at William Young's under pretext of attending preachment, and at other times—viz., at Fish feast and at Barbacues, to concert the plan of Insurrection. The Rain which fell on Saturday night, the 30th August, prevented the carrying the said plan into Execution. Swords made by the prisoner were to be used by Horsemen, two hundred of whom were appointed, but it was expected there would be 400. Gabriel and Solomon, the prisoner, kept lists of the names of the conspirators; that he heard Lewis Barret spoken of as one of Town's Negroes concerned. That he in conversation with Jack Bowler, otherwise called Jack Ditcher, it appeared that two white Frenchmen was the first instigators of the Insurrection, but whose names he did not hear.

Pharoah, the property of Philip Sheppard, deposed: That the prisoner at the bar on Saturday, the 30th August, enquired of this deponent whether the light horse of Richmond were out, he being then from Richmond, who informed him that he had seen some at Col. Goodall's tavern. The prisoner remarked that the business of the insurrection had so far advanced that they were compelled, even if discovered, to go forward with it; that he had four swords then to finish, which he must complete by the time of his company meeting that evening, which would consist of 1,000 men, to wit: negroes.

*Will's Case.*—Ben, the property of T. H. Prosser, deposed: That the prisoner brought two scythe blades to Gabriel for the purpose of having

1860.  
Sept. 11,  
Henrico.

them made into swords, and that four swords were made out of them by Solomon at request of Gabriel; that the said Will acknowledged in the presence of the deponent, in conversation with Gabriel, that he was concerned in the conspiracy and insurrection, and that he wanted the appointment of captain of the foot, but this being refused him, he was to act as a horseman; that the whites were to be murdered and killed indiscriminately, except [?] none of whom were to be touched.

Toby, the property of John Holman, deposed: That the prisoner proposed to join and fight the whites; that he had joined, and had to carry two scythes blades to Solomon to be made into swords; he was determined to kill his master; that he had his master's sorrel horse set apart for him to act upon as a horseman; that there was to be a grand meeting of the negroes near Prosser's, from whence they were to proceed and take the town; that 5,000 blacks were to meet the prisoner at the bar, and that all the blacks who did not join would be put to death; that he intended to kill his master on Saturday night, the 30th August last; that the prisoner had an appointment as captain, but was turned out, being under size.

*John's Case.*—Daniel, property of John Williamson, deposed: That the deponent being at plough at home, the prisoner, who at that time worked at the penitentiary and was passing by, invited him to come to a great barbecue which was to be made by the negroes at Half Sink; and upon being informed that the purport of the barbecue was to concert measures for raising an insurrection and murdering and killing the whites and taking the country, of which he had no doubt, as Gabriel, and Solomon, and himself, being a captain, being at the head of the business; that the said John said he had a number of men at the Penitentiary, and was going up to Caroline, where he expected to raise several hundred; that they were to seize upon the arms at the penitentiary, and that all negroes who did not join in the insurrection would and should be put to death. That the whites were to be put to death indiscriminately.

Charles, property of Wm. Winston, deposed: That about three weeks ago the prisoner gave this deponent an invite to a barbecue to be at Mr. Moore's school-house, which was made on a particular occasion, but was not made known to him, the deponent, which invitation this deponent refused to accept.

*Isaac's Case.*—Ben, the property of T. H. Prosser, deposed, that the prisoner informed him the deponent, that he had joined Prosser's Gabriel, in order to take Richmond and that he the prisoner, was one of the foot soldiers; that he was if possible to supply himself with a sword which if he could not do, Gabriel was to furnish him, and he the prisoner, was determined either to kill or be killed.

Dan'l, the property of Wm. Burton, deposed, that the prisoner informed the deponent, on Friday the 29th August last, that he the prisoner, had

been informed by Nanny, wife to Gabriel, that 1000 men were to meet said Gabriel near Prosser's Tavern the ensuing night, and that he also was to be one of them, for the purpose of murdering the White Citizens; that the Governor had in some measure, got an alarm of this business, and had caused the arms which had been kept in the Capitol to be removed to the Penitentiary—that they should not mind the guards which were placed over the arms as they were determined to rush through them and take both them and the magazine—that he communicated this information to the overseer that an army of negroes were raising against the whites, with an injunction to the said overseer to keep the communication secret. the blacks were determined to kill every black who should not aid in, and join them in the insurrection. The prisoner was much intoxicated at the time of the conversation and information above.

1800.  
Sept. 11,  
Henrico

*Michael's Case.*—Ben, the property of T. H. Prosser, deposed: That about a fortnight before time appointed for the insurrection, the prisoner being on his way to Richmond, employed Gabriel to make him a sword, which was to be used by him in fighting the whites under the command of Gabriel, as a foot soldier; that he called on the Saturday evening appointed for carrying the plot into execution, the prisoner applied at the house of Gabriel and obtained his sword, and promised to meet the Sunday night at the Tobacco house of Mr. Prosser, that being too rainy an evening for carrying their \* \* \*

Pharoah, the property of Philip Sheppard, deposed: That in the week preceding the Saturday appointed for an insurrection, the prisoner informed him that Gabriel was to furnish him a sword, which he would call and get on Saturday evening ensuing; that he had joined the party.

Ned. the property of Judith Owen, deposed: That the prisoner informed him he had been requested by Gabriel to join him in an insurrection, which he had rejected, promising said Gabriel should he see the business progress well he would afterward join him.

William Gentry deposed: That he and Mr. Glenn being in pursuit of Gabriel and just on the return from said Gabriel's habitation, fell in with the prisoner, who they were about to take up when he fled into the woods; that being pursued by Mr. Glenn, was taken some time before the deponent arrived, and that Mr. Glenn informed him that a scythe blade made into the form of a sword was produced by the prisoner, with which he made battle against said Glenn, who had overcome the prisoner and had then the said sword in his possession.

*Nat's Case.*—Ben, the property of T. H. Prosser, deposed: That the prisoner had joined Gabriel to fight the White people, and for that purpose purchased a sword from one William, belonging to Ben Mosby; that upon falling in with Gabriel and this deponent, he informed Gabriel that he had his sword, and left it at the warehouse; that he had a stick in his hand, and, flourishing it in his hand, observed that thus he would wield

1800.  
Sept. 11,  
Henrico

his sword. This was about three weeks previous to the time appointed for the commencement of the insurrection. That the said Gabriel and the prisoner agreed that the prisoner should bear the rank of a captain, the said prisoner remarking that all the Warehouse boys had joined, and he would go on to get as many as he could until the appointed time.

Washington, belonging to Benj. Mosby, deposed: That he sold a sword to the prisoner, who informed him he wanted to stand Guard with it at the Warehouse, where he then lived and had the care of

Sept. 12,  
Henrico

Henrico County Court sentences Frank, a negro man slave, the property of Thos. H. Prosser, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 15th instant at the usual place of execution.

Henrico County Court sentences Martin, a negro man slave, the property of Thos. H. Prosser, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 15th instant at the usual place of execution.

Henrico County Court sentences Billy, a negro man slave, the property of Roger Gregory, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders that he be hung on the 15th instant at the usual place of execution.

Henrico County Court sentences Charles, a negro man slave, the property of Roger Gregory, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 15th instant at the usual place of execution.

*William Rowe to the Governor. Enclosing Solomon's Petition for Pardon.*

I conceive it my unbounded Duty to inclose Solomon's Petition to your Excellency. Much good seems to flow from a rapid execution. My daylight Bell no sooner gave signal to my Servants to rise to duty, than it roused the unfortunate criminals to a sense of their approaching fate, than the whole jail was alive to Hymns of Praise to the Great God, and (I hope) true repentance instantly began.

I am, sir, &c.

*Petition of Solomon to the Governor.*

The Petition of the negro man Solomon, now under sentence of death in the Jail of Richmond, Humbly represents—

That the petitioner would consider it as a favour of the highest importance and as essential to his eternal welfare, if he could possibly, by your Excellency's goodness, obtain a respite for a few days from the execution of the just and awful sentence which has been pronounced

1800.  
Sept. 12,  
Henrico

ag't him; that this act of mercy and compassion will not only be of the utmost advantage to the petitioner, but it may ultimately promote the interest of the Commonwealth, as he is ready, if time shall be allowed to him for recollection, to make numerous and important discoveries concerning the late atrocious conspiracy. And your Excellency's Petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

FURTHER TRIALS OF INSURGENTS.

*Trial of Gregory's Billy.*

Testimony of Ben against him: Billy was one. Gabriel asked Billy if he would be one. He said that he wanted to be a captain if Gabriel would find him arms, which Gabriel agreed to. Was to have Mr. Gregory's horse. This conversation was on Wednesday night. He wanted to be a captain to fight the white people. He was to meet Gabriel the next night at Mr. Owens'. Guilty; executed Monday. Valued £100.

*Trial of Martin, Property of T. H. Prosser.*

Witnesses—John and Ben.

John—Gabriel carried some spirit to a spring where the prisoner was. When he was asked by Gabriel if he would join him to fight the white people he said he would.

Ben—Martin enlisted under Gabriel, but Gabriel said he was too old. Then Martin said he would run bullets and keep them in bullets. Guilty; executed on Monday. Valued £300.

*Trial of Charles.*

Testimony of Patrick and Ben against him.

Patrick—Charles asked him at Gregory's Tavern if he was a man. He said he wanted him to meet him Saturday or Sunday; he wanted to talk with a man. He would pay him well.

Ben—Charles wanted to be a Cap't; Gabriel said he might be a sergeant—he was too trifling a fellow. Charles cursed mightily about. Charles was to meet Gabriel on a certain day at Mr. Gregory's, where there was 29 arms, where he was to be furnished with arms. He told Gabriel after he agreed to make him a Capt. that he would raise him 30 or 40 arms. Guilty; to be executed on Monday. Valued at £100.

*Trial of Frank.*

Testimony of John and Ben against him.

John—Gabriel asked him to join him. He said he would. Those who were to join were to stand up; the prisoner stood up. They were to meet at Young's spring afterwards to confer on the same subject. The prisoner said he would enlist with Gabriel to fight the white people.

1800.  
Sept. 12,  
Henrico

Ben—He agreed to join Gabriel to fight the white people for their liberty. George asked Frank why they did not start; Frank said the weather was too bad, but they were to meet — night. Guilty; to be executed on Monday. Valued £100.

*Trial of Martin, Property of R. Gregory.*

Testimony of Billy and Ben against him.

Billy—Last Wednesday was a fortnight, He came to the witness and told him he could tell him news. He told him the boys on the Brook were going to fight the white people, and that he had joined them, and advised the prisoner to join also. The witness advised him not to join, and he said he believed he would not. The witness asked him what boys they were. He said he could not tell him, but that he would know in time.

Ben—Ben knew Martin, but did not know that he was concerned in the business.

Moses, for the prisoner—The witness heard the prisoner, after the plot was discovered, curse the black people for intending to rise against the whites. Acquitted.

Sept. 12,  
Bradford

Ro. H. Saunders informs the governor that he has received his instructions in regard to arresting a man at the coal pits [Tuckahoe], and that by the time of writing he had no doubt that they had been carried out by Captain Sanders.

Sept. 13,  
Henrico

Henrico County Court sentences Sawney, a negro man slave, the property of William Young, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 18th instant at the usual place of execution.

*Evidence in the Case.*

Prosser's Ben—He, the witness, went with Gen'l Gabriel on a Friday night (time not particularly ascertained, but between 3 or 4 weeks ago). Sawney, the prisoner, together with a number of negroes there present, made a contribution of money, which was lodged with a negro man called Ben Woolfolk, who, the Deponent understood, was about to go in a few days into the county of Caroline. This money was to be expended in drink by the said Ben Woolfolk in the county of Caroline and treated with by way of inducing the negroes there to join in the Conspiracy. The prisoner contributed six pence. Gabriel and Ben Woolfolk informed the persons present that they should have good Arms, and that they had a large number of men. Sawney, the prisoner. Enlisted as a soldier under Ben Woolfolk to fight the White people for the Freedom by his acknowledgment in the presence of the witness.

*Confession of Solomon.*

Communications made to the subscribers by Solomon, the property of Thomas H. Prosser, of Henrico, now under sentence of death for plotting an insurrection.

1800.  
Sept. 15

My brother Gabriel was the person who influenced me to join him and others in order that (as he said) we might conquer the white people and possess ourselves of their property. I enquired how we were to effect it. He said by falling upon them (the whites) in the dead of night, at which time they would be unguarded and unsuspecting. I then enquired who was at the head of the plan. He said Jack, alias Jack Bowler. I asked him if Jack Bowler knew anything about carrying on war. He replied he did not. I then enquired who he was going to employ. He said a man from Caroline who was at the siege of Yorktown, and who was to meet him (Gabriel) at the Brook and to proceed on to Richmond, take, and then fortify it. This man from Caroline was to be commander and manager the first day, and then, after exercising the soldiers, the command was to be resigned to Gabriel. If Richmond was taken without the loss of many men they were to continue there some time, but if they sustained any considerable loss they were to bend their course for Hanover Town or York, they were not decided to which, and continue at that place as long as they found they were able to defend it, but in the event of a defeat or loss at those places they were to endeavor to form a junction with some negroes which, they had understood from Mr. Gregory's overseer, were in rebellion in some quarter of the country. This information which they had gotten from the overseer, made Gabriel anxious, upon which he applied to me to make scythe-swords, which I did to the number of twelve. Every Sunday he came to Richmond to provide ammunition and to find where the military stores were deposited. Gabriel informed me, in case of success, that they intended to subdue the whole of the country where slavery was permitted, but no further.

The first places Gabriel intended to attack in Richmond were, the Capitol, the Magazine, the Penitentiary, the Governor's house and his person. The inhabitants were to be massacred, save those who begged for quarter and agreed to serve as soldiers with them. The reason why the insurrection was to be made at this particular time was, the discharge of the number of soldiers, one or two months ago, which induced Gabriel to believe the plan would be more easily executed.

Given under our hands this 15th day of September, 1800.

GERVAS STORRS,  
JOSEPH SELDEN.

1800.  
Sept. 15,  
Henrico

Henrico County Court sentences Jupiter, a negro man slave the property of Nathaniel Wilkinson of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 18th instant at the usual place of execution.

Petition for pardon of Isham, a negro man slave the property of Wm. Burton, who had been sentenced to death for conspiracy and insurrection. The petitioners state that from his good conduct and honest character through life, they are convinced that if he entered into the plot he had been seduced and persuaded, and that if he should be pardoned they are willing for him to live among them again. Signed by Wm. Burton, Izard Bacon, John Williamson, Dabney Williamson, Robert Browning, Sam'l Allen, John Williamson, Jr., and James Allen, Jr.

Henrico County Court sentences Sam, a negro man slave, the property of Nathaniel Wilkinson, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 18th instant at the usual place of execution.

Henrico County Court sentences to death Peter, a mulatto man slave, the property of Thomas Henry Prosser, on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 18th instant at the usual place of execution.

Henrico County Court sentences Isham, a negro man slave, the property of William Burton, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 18th instant at the usual place of execution.

*Evidence Against Several Negroes.*

Commonwealth against Jupiter, the property of Col. Wilkinson.

Prosser's Ben deposed: That the prisoner told Gabriel he would enlist people in town; that he had done very well in town, he had enlisted a number; that he expected to enlist more. He enquired of Gabriel how he came on in the country. Gabriel replied he could make out some arms but not sufficient. The prisoner said he could contrive to let him into the Capitol to get arms, &c. That the man who kept the key would let them into the Capitol to take the arms which were there. This conversation took place on the day of raising a new barn at Mr. Prosser's, and was the day after Mr. Prosser left home to go to Amherst.

Thomas H. Prosser deposed: That he left home on his journey to Amherst about the seventh of August last.



Commonwealth against Sam, the property of Col. Wilkinson.

1860.  
Sept. 15.  
Henrico.

*The Evidence.*

Prosser's Ben—I saw him at our great house about a fortnight before they were to meet. In a conversation in presence of the deponent Sam, the prisoner, observed that if he had 100 men as valuable as himself he would venture in town: that they were to fight with scythe-blades in the beginning, but they would get arms from the Capitol. Sam said that if they had men enough to fill up the Capitol Square they would drive all the White people in the River. He agreed to meet Gabriel on the night appointed.

Commonwealth against Isiah, property of Nathaniel Wilkinson.

Prosser's Ben deposes. That on Monday preceding the Saturday appointed for the insurrection, the prisoner was at Mr Prosser's Blacksmith shop. Prosser's Solomon asked the prisoner how all the Boys in Town were. The prisoner replied the boys in Town are well and nearly ready to do the business. From Solomon's usual way of addressing persons concerned in the plot, the witness supposed the prisoner to understand the inquiry from Solomon as alluding to the Insurrection of the Negroes. The witness has heard Gabriel say the prisoner was out of his party, but never directly heard the prisoner make any acknowledgement to that effect. Acquitted.

Commonwealth against Isiah, belonging to Wm. Burton.

Ben deposed: On a Sunday (on which the last Barbecue took place amongst the blacks, the prisoner [witness mean] went to the Bridge Brook: about 12 o'clock, as he believed, where he found the prisoner at the Bar, and Sunday (other negroes named by him, gaming with quads, pitching: The witness went below the bridge fishing and was shortly after joined by Gabriel, the prisoner and a brother of his by name George, from hence the witness went to the Barbecue where the prisoner, Gabriel and some other negroes whom he saw at the Bridge were also present: That Gabriel, the prisoner, said George, the witness and some other negroes went hence with Gabriel: Gabriel had asked the prisoner and his brother George to join him at the Barbecue: after being some time at Gabriel's house, he explained to the prisoner and George, for what purpose he asked them to join him: both agreed they would, and each shaking the other by the hand exclaimed here are our hands and hearts, we will wade to our knees in blood sooner than fail in the attempt. The next Sunday was appointed as the day of Meeting, at Mrs. Owens, to settle the plan: About an hour by Sun, when they arrived at Gabriel's house, neither of them intoxicated. Mr. Burton's Frank was at the Bridge in company with the prisoner and others when he first arrived there.

Wm. Burton's Frank for the prisoner, deposed: He went to the Brook

1800.  
Sept. 15,  
Henrico

Bridge on the Sunday of the last Barbecue, he arrived there about 3 o'clock in the evening; while he remained there, the prisoner and his brother George came. he did not see either Gabriel or the witness for the Commonwealth there: they all set off from the bridge together, George and the prisoner turned off at the road leading to Prosser's Mill and said they were going to the Barbecue.

Natty, belonging to Izard Bacon, for the prisoner, deposed: That on the Sunday of the last Barbecue which she heard of, Isham came to her house early in the morning, that the prisoner also came there some time in the afternoon: both of them set off to the Barbecue after dinner from her house; they both returned to her house between sunset and dark, and they said they had been to the Barbecue, and that the women had eat up all the Fish: Isham's wife was unwilling for him to go, but he was persuaded to it by his brother George.

Mr. Ellis: Saw the prisoner and George on the day of the Barbecue, both in the morning and evening pass by his house.

William Burton: On the day on which Isham and George are said to have been together at the Bridge and elsewhere, said George drove his family to a preachment from whence they returned about one or half-past one, or perhaps two o'clock, and knows not what became of him after, during the remainder of the day; this was on the 20th July.

Sept. 16,  
Henrico

Henrico County Court sentences Laddis, a negro man slave, the property of John Williamson, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 19th instant at the usual place of execution.

Henrico County Court sentences Isaac, a negro man slave, the property of James Allen, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung the 19th inst. at the usual place of execution.

*Confessions of Ben alias Ben Woolfolk.*

Sept. 17

The first time I ever heard of this conspiracy was from Mrs. Ann Smith's George; the second person that gave me information was Samuel alias Samuel Bird, the property of Mrs. Jane Clarke. They asked me last spring to come over to their houses on a Friday night. It was late before I could get there; the company had met and dispersed. I inquired where they were gone, and was informed to see their wives. I went after them and found George; he carried me and William (the property of William Young) to Sam Bird's, and after we got there he (Sam) enquired of George if he had any pen and ink; he said no—he had left it at home. He brought out his list of men, and he had Elisha Price's Jim, James Price's Moses, Sally Price's Bob, Denny Wood's

**Emanuel.** After this George invited me to come and see him the next night, but I did not go. The following Monday night William went over and returned with a ticket for me; likewise one for Gilbert. The Thursday night following, both George and Sam Bird came to see me. Bowler's Jack was with us. We conversed untill late in the night upon the subject of the meditated war. George said he would try to be ready by the 24th of August, and the following Sunday he went to Hungry meeting-house to enlist men. When I saw him again he informed me he had enlisted 37 men there. The Sunday after he went to Manchester, where he said he had recruited 50 odd men. I never saw him again untill the sermon at my house, which was about three weeks before the rising was to take place. On the day of the sermon, George called on Sam Bird to inform how many men he had; he said he had not his list with him, but he supposed about 500. George wished the business to be deferred some time longer. Mr. Prosser's Gabriel wished to bring on the business as soon as possible. Gilbert said the summer was almost over, and he wished them to enter upon the business before the weather got too cold. Gabriel proposed that the subject should be referred to his brother Martin to decide upon. Martin said there was this expression in the Bible, delays breed danger; at this time, he said, the country was at peace, the soldiers were discharged, and the arms all put away; there was no patrolling in the country, and that before he would any longer bear what he had borne, he would turn out and fight with his stick. Gilbert said he was ready with his pistol, but it was in need of repair; he gave it to Gabriel, who was put it in order for him. I then spoke to the company and informed them I wished to have something to say. I told them that I had heard in the days of old, when the Israelites were in service to King Pharaoh, they were taken from him by the power of God, and were carried away by Moses. God had blessed him with an angel to go with him, but that I could see nothing of that kind in these days. Martin said in reply: I read in my Bible where God says if we will worship Him we should have peace in all our land; five of you shall conquer an hundred, and a hundred a thousand of our enemies. After this they went on consultation upon the time they should execute the plan. Martin spoke and appointed for them to meet in three weeks, which was to be of a Saturday night. Gabriel said he had 500 bullets made. Smith's George said he was done the corn and would then go on to make as many cross-bows as he could. Bowler's Jack said he had got 50 spiers or bayonets fixed at the end of sticks. The plan was to be as follows: We were all to meet at the briery spot on the Brook; 100 men were to stand at the Brook bridge; Gabriel was to take 100 more and go to Gregory's tavern and take the arms which were there; 50 more were to be sent to Rocketts to set that on fire, in order to alarm the upper part of the town and induce

1800.  
Sept. 17

1800.  
Sept. 17

the people to go down there; while they were employed in extinguishing the fire Gabriel and the other officers and soldiers were to take the Capitol and all the arms they could find and be ready to slaughter the people on their return from Rocketts. Sam Bird was to have a pass as a free man and was to go to the nation of Indians called Catawbias to persuade them to join the negroes to fight the white people. As far as I understood all the whites were to be massacred, except the Quakers, the Methodists, and the Frenchmen, and they were to be spared on account as they conceived of their being friendly to liberty, and also they had understood that the French were at war with this country for the money that was due them, and that an army was landed at South Key, which they hoped would assist them. They intended also to spare all the poor white women who had no slaves.

The above communications are put down precisely as delivered to us by Ben, alias Ben Woolfolk. Given under our hands this 17th day of September, 1800.

GERVAS STORRS,  
JOSEPH SELDEN.

Sept. 17,  
Cartersville

Colonel Mayo Carrington informs the Governor that on his return home from Richmond, the Saturday preceding, he had received information which gave him strong reason to believe there was danger to the neighborhood. He had ordered Majors Hatcher and Patteson to carry out strictly the 39th section of the Militia law, and had placed stationary patrols along the river, the chief danger to be expected being from the batteaux men. Had arrested on suspicion a negro boatman named Stepney and sent him to Richmond under guard.

Sept. 18

Ben, alias Ben Woolfolk, sentenced to death for conspiracy and insurrection Sept. 16th, pardoned Sept. 18th.

Sept. 19,  
Henrico

Henrico County Court sentences George, a negro man slave, the property of Jacob Smith's estate, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on October 3d, at Watson's tavern, the property of Thomas H. Prosser, in Henrico county.

On the trial of George, belonging to the estate of Jacob Smith deceased.

Ben Woolfolk, the property of Paul Graham, deposed: That the first time he heard anything of a conspiracy and insurrection among the blacks was from the prisoner, that he came to his house at dusk or dark where he was cutting wood, and asked him if he would join a free-mason society; this deponent replied no, because all free-masons would go to hell: upon this, the prisoner said it was not a free-mason society he wished him to join, but a society to fight the white people for their freedom, who replied he would consider of it; about a week or ten days the prisoner, and one Sam Byrd came to his house (at Mr. Young's where he was hired) with

Jack Bowler, that the prisoner, Sam Byrd, and this deponent, conversed until late at night, upon the intended war and insurrection: the said George told them he was one of the party; some short time after this the prisoner informed this deponent that he had enlisted about thirty-seven men at Hungary meeting house, and fifty in Manchester. On Sunday evening about a week after the meeting of the prisoner and Sam Byrd at his house, there was a meeting at Prosser's Spring: the prisoner, Gabriel, this deponent and many others were there; they appointed the prisoner to carry the money which was made by subscription, to this deponent, on the night he was to go to Caroline, to buy liquor to treat the men to get them to enlist; up there George the prisoner was a Colonel: the prisoner told this deponent that he intended to hire his time of his Mistress and go down as far as the pipeing tree, to enlist men, partially the *Outlandish* people, because they were supposed to deal with witches and wizards, and of course useful in armies to tell when any calamity was about to befall them.

1800.  
Sept. 19,  
Henrico

Price's John also testified.

John Bracken, Mayor, writes to the Governor in obedience to a resolution of the Town Hall, requesting a loan of 25 stand of arms during the agitation occasioned by the late meditated insurrection.

Sept. 20,  
Williams-  
burg

Henrico County Court sentences Gilbert, a negro man slave, the property of William Young, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on the 3rd of October at Prosser's tavern, in Henrico.

Sept. 22,  
Henrico

*The trial of Gilbert, the property of Wm. Young.*

Prosser's Ben Deposed: That Gabriel went to Mr. Young's with the witness, and after sending for the prisoner he came; Gabriel asked him if he had studied on the business; he answered he had. Gabriel asked him if he —; he replied that his master had a sword hanging up in the house, which he would get and make himself a belt for it. He, the prisoner, wanted to be a Captain, but Gabriel refused him this command, saying he stuttered too much to give the word of command.

Mrs. Price's John Deposed: That on a Sunday after a Sermon at Mr. Young's, Prosser's Gabriel gave an Invitation to some of the negroes to drink grog down at the spring. After being there some time, Gabriel asked the prisoner, amongst others, to join him to fight for his country. The prisoner consented to join Gabriel and to endeavor to get him men.

Ben Woolfolk deposed: That the prisoner said he was determined his master and mistress should be put to death by the men under him, as he could not do it himself, they having raised him. After Prosser's Ben was arrested, the prisoner proposed to run away, and commenced measuring himself, and began to write himself a pass.

1800.  
Sept. 22,  
Henrico      Henrico County Court sentences Tom, a negro man slave, the property of Thos. H. Prosser, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on October 3d at Prosser's Tavern.

Sept. 23,  
Hanover  
Town      Benjamin Oliver writes to the Governor asking that swords and pistols may be furnished the Hanover Cavalry, so that they may be able to do patrol duty. Thinks much danger is to be apprehended in the county from the great number of free negroes.

Sept. 24,  
Petersburg      William Prentis informs the Governor that he has caused the arrest of Reuben and Jesse Byrd of Petersburg, free men of color, who one of the convicted conspirators, stated were principally concerned in the late plot.

Sept. 27,  
Henrico      Henrico County Court sentences Sam Byrd, a negro man slave, the property of Jane Clarke, of Henrico, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung at Prosser's Tavern on October 3d.

Similar sentence of Michael, a negro man slave, the property of Thos. Goode, of Chesterfield county.

Similar sentence of William, a negro man slave, the property of Wm. Young.

*Rich'd E. Lee Gives Information to the Governor of Gabriel's Capture.*

Sept. 25,  
Norfolk      On Tuesday last Gabriel arrived here, and was soon after apprehended; a negro on board the vessel informed John Morse, an apprentice boy, who immediately informed two of the Constables of this Borough, and who left this place yesterday charged with the delivery of Gabriel at Richmond, with a letter from Col. Newton on the subject. I have taken the liberty of giving this statement from conviction that the informers are entitled to some part of the Reward, which is submitted to your judgment.

I am informed that Charles Curlin is a material witness in the prosecution vs. Dr. Read. and that he has not been summoned. The propriety of the Deputy Attorney's being altogether intrusted with the management of the business is submitted to you. He is an Englishman, very intimate with the Doctor, and a supporter of the measures of the Executive of the United States.

I am, &c.

Letter of Col. Newton respecting the conduct of Richardson Taylor:

NORFOLK, *Sept. 24th, 1800.*

SIR:

Sept. 27      The bearers hereof, Obadiah Gunn and Robt. Wilson, bring with them Negro Gabriel, taken from on board the three-masted schooner

1800.  
Sept. 27

Mary, Richardson Taylor master, belonging to Richmond. Mr. Hooper is part owner of the schooner, from whom the character of Taylor may be known. It appears that he left Richmond on Saturday night week, and run on ground on the bar in Ward's reach, four miles below Richmond. On Sunday morning Gabriel hailed the schooner, and was brought on board by one of the negroes belonging to her. He was armed with a bayonet fixed on a stick, which he threw into the river. Capt. Taylor says he was unwell and in his cabin when Gabriel was brought on board. Negro Billy says he was asleep, and when he was awakened and found him on board, he questioned him, conceiving him to be Col. Gabriel; that he said he was called Gabriel, but his name was Daniel. Isham and Billy, two negro hands, informed me they told Capt. Taylor it was their opinion he was the person the reward was offered for. Capt. Taylor says that he came on board as a free man; that he asked him for his papers, but he did not shew any, saying he had left them. Capt. Taylor is an old inhabitant, been an overseer, and must have known that neither free blacks or slaves could travel in this country without passes; and he certainly must have had many opportunities of securing Gabriel in eleven days, even if he had suspected his hands would not assist him, but they declared a willingness to me to have done it, in hopes of obtaining a reward; he passed Osborne's, Bermuda Hundred, City Point, and, I suppose, many vessels, where he could have obtained force to have secured him. His conduct after his arrival here is also blameable. He was boarded by a Capt. Inchman below this place, to whom he never mentioned a circumstance of Gabriel, whom he could then have secured. After he came up to town he went alongside a ship with 25 men on board, at 10 o'clock; he still never mentioned the matter. One of his own men, Negro Billy, was sent on shore, and he sent no information. He wrote to Capt. Ashley, but gave him none also. Billy being acquainted with a young nian by name of Norris, told him of the circumstance; he immediately took such steps, which was about two o'clock, that Ob'd Gunn and Robert Wilson, two constables, proceeded on board the schooner Mary and took him. He was at liberty on board, and might have made his escape. Taylor says he had just begun to write a letter to Capt. Tucker, of this place, to know what he was to do with him. The part he wrote is inclosed, and I confess I think Mr. Taylor knew much better than he acted, what to do in such a case, having long had the management of negroes. I have bound him (Taylor) over to appear before the Mayor of Richmond to answer for his conduct.

Gabriel says he will give your Excellency a full information. He will confess to no one else.

I am, &c.

1800.  
Sept. 27,  
Norfolk

Thomas Newton to Obadiah Gunn and Robert Wilson, Constables:

You are to proceed with the negro Gabriel according to the warrant herewith, but in the first instance, as he promises a confession to the Governor, you will first carry him to his Excellency, and let him not be disturbed by too many inquisitive persons, as it may be a means of preventing discoveries. Keep him as quiet as possible, that he may reflect on his situation and confess fully. Be cautious to let it be known that you have him on board, and be as speedy as possible in delivering him at Richmond.

IN COUNCIL.

Sept. 28,  
Richmond

Messrs. McRae, Foushee, and Wood, who were appointed to take the confession of Gabriel, report that he appeared to make no confession worth reporting.

It is advised that the extra guard over Gabriel be dismissed; that orders be given to the Keeper of the Penitentiary to secure him in some safe cell by himself, and that a sentinel of the general guard be kept constantly over him, and no communications held with him without order from the Governor.

A. BLAIR, C. C.

*Governor Monroe states his orders to the Council respecting Gabriel.*

This slave [Gabriel] was brought to my house yesterday about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and a great cloud of blacks as well as whites gathering round him, I requested Captain Giles, who was present, to form a guard of 15 or 20 of the citizens he could collect on the ground, and take him under its care to the Penitentiary and continue to guard him there with that number of men in a separate cell till further orders, holding no conversation with him on any subject or permitting any other person to do so.

Sept. 29,  
Henrico

Sentence of death passed on Sam alias Sam Graham, a slave, for conspiracy and insurrection. To be hung October 10th at the Cross Roads near Four-Mile Creek Church, near Robertson's Tavern, Henrico.

Testimony of Ben Woolfolk against Abraham, a slave charged with conspiracy and insurrection.

[Endorsed "Abram pardoned."]

Sept. 30,  
Henrico

Sentence of death on Dick, a slave charged with conspiracy and insurrection. To be hung at the Cross Roads October 10th. The Court recommends him to mercy.

Testimony of Ben Woolfolk against Dick.

[Endorsed "Dick pardoned."]



Sentence of death on James, a slave charged with conspiracy and insurrection. To be hung at the Cross Roads October 10th.

1800  
Sept. 30  
Henrico

Testimony of Ben Woolfolk against James.

[Endorsed "Reprieved to 2d Friday in November."]

Sentence of death on Solomon, a slave charged with conspiracy and insurrection. To be hung October 17th at the usual place of execution.

Testimony of Ben Woolfolk against Solomon.

[Endorsed "Solomon pardoned."]

Testimony of Ben Woolfolk against Jacob, a slave charged with conspiracy and insurrection.

[Endorsed "Pardoned."]

Joshua West, who was appointed by Col. Lambert, quartermaster of the troops called out in consequence of the insurrection, and had procured everything necessary for the soldiers—barracks, camp kettles, wood, axes, &c.—applies to the Governor for money for use of the militia.

Sept. 30,  
Richmond

Sentence of death on Billy, a slave charged with conspiracy and insurrection. To be hung October 17th. Recommended by the court for mercy.

[Endorsed "Pardoned October 1st, 1800."]

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer, continued by adjournment and held for the county of Henrico on Wednesday, the first of October, 1800, for the trial of Lewis, a negro man slave, the property of Dabney Williamson, of the said county, charged with conspiracy and insurrection.

Oct. 1

Present: Miles Selden, Hezekiah Henley, Benjamin Goode, Richard Adams, and George Williamson, Gentlemen Justices.

The said negro man slave Lewis was set to the bar in custody, and being arraigned, plead not guilty to the charge exhibited against him. Whereupon sundry witnesses were charged, sworn, and examined, and the said prisoner fully heard in his defence by James Rind, Gent., counsel assigned him by the Court. On consideration whereof, it is the unanimous opinion of the Court that the said negro man slave Lewis is guilty of the crime with which he stands accused, and for the same that he be hanged by the neck until he be dead, and that execution of this sentence be done and performed on him the said Lewis, on Friday, the 17th day of October instant, at the usual place of execution. The Court valued the said Lewis to one hundred and ten pounds.

The Minutes of the foregoing trial and proceedings were signed by Miles Selden, Hez. Henley, Benjamin Goode, Richard Adams, Geo. Williamson.

A copy—Teste:

ADAM CRAIG, C. C.

1800.  
Oct. 6,  
Richmond

We, the subscribers, Magistrates of the county of Henrico, who sat on the trial of Solomon, a negro man, the property of the Estate of Joseph Lewis, dec'd, for conspiracy, do hereby, taking all the circumstances of the case into consideration, respectfully recommend the said slave Solomon a proper object of mercy to his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable the Executive Council.

P. YOUNGHUSBAND,  
GEO. WILLIAMSON,  
RICH'D ADAMS,  
HEZ. HUNLEY,  
BENJ. GOODE.

*Trial of Randolph.*

Oct. 6

The same testimony as against Dick (at Mr. Young's). He afterwards saw the prisoner at Hanover Court-House and informed him the time appointed for the rising; he said he knew it before. He saw him the same day afterwards at Littlepage's Bridge, at a preaching, where the subject was again renewed, and the prisoner said he would attend if life permitted. That two negroes who were at the meeting had threatened to communicate the insurrection to the white people, were pursued by the prisoner and others on their return home with an intention, as they said, of putting them to death, but who when overtaken by them denied that they had any such intention.

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer held for the county of Henrico on Monday, the sixth day of October, 1800, for the trial of Dick, a negro man slave, the property of Paul Thilman, of the county of Hanover, charged with conspiracy and insurrection:

The said Dick was by the said Court convicted and condemned to execution on Friday, the seventeenth of October, 1800.

The said Court, for reasons appearing sufficient, recommended the said Dick to the Governor and Council as an object of mercy.

[On the paper containing the record of the trial of Dick is endorsed "Pardoned."—Ed.]

Henrico County Court sentences Randolph, negro man slave, the property of Nancy Leftwich, to death on the charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and orders him to be hung on Friday, the seventeenth day of October, 1800.

The said Court, for reasons appearing to them sufficient, recommend the said Randolph to the Governor and Council as an object of mercy.

[Endorsed "Pardoned."—Ed.]

Henrico County Court recommends James, negro man slave, the property of Elisha Price, convicted in said Court of conspiracy and insurrection.

and condemned to be hung, for reasons deemed by them sufficient, to the Governor and Council as an object for mercy.

1800.  
Oct. 6

[Endorsed, "Reprieved until the 2nd Friday in Nov'r next."—Ed.]

Henrico County Court sentences Jack Bowler, a negro man slave, the property of Wm. Bowler of the county of Caroline, to death on the charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and order him to be hung on the second Friday in November next.

Oct. 9

*Substance of the Testimony given in the trial of Jack Bowler.*

Prosser's Ben.—The witness deposes that Gabriel informed him that the prisoner was the first person from whom he received information of the insurrection intended by the negroes, which was to centre at William Young's. The prisoner said at the Blacksmith shop, in which the witness worked, that he would raise and enlist men and contend for command with Gabriel.

Oct. 9

The prisoner came to the shop at sundry times, and had frequent conversations and mentioned at repeated times there, that he had procured six or seven pounds of powder for the purpose of fighting the white people: The prisoner agreed (in hearing of the witness) together with Gabriel and Solomon, to commence the fight with scythe blades, until they could procure arms from the white people. He saw the prisoner at his Master's great-house on the Saturday night appointed for the commencement of the insurrection, in company with Gabriel and Solomon, who said and concluded that the excessive bad weather would prevent the people from meeting that night, and appointed the ensuing Sunday night as the time of meeting at his Master's tobacco house; he also saw them together on the Sunday morning following.

Mrs. Prices John.—I saw the prisoner at Mr. Young's spring, in company with Gabriel: he enlisted with Gabriel and engaged to get as many men to join as he could, and meet in three weeks from that time for the purpose of fighting the white people. Prosser's Tavern being appointed the place of Rendezvous, the prisoner enquired of Gabriel what he was to do for arms: the prisoner applied to many who had agreed to engage in the insurrection, to give him the voice for General. But upon the votes being taken, Gabriel had by far the greater number. Whereupon, it was concluded that the prisoner should be second in command, to-wit, a captain of light horse. The prisoner and Gabriel had secret conversations. That the meeting was interrupted by the appearance of Mr. Young's overseer, and thereupon the people dispersed, having previously agreed to meet at Mr. Moore's school-house, where a final conclusion on the business should be had.

Prosser's Sam—This witness was a run-away at the time the affair was to have happened: On the Tuesday night of the week appointed for the

1800.  
Oct. 9 meeting of the negroes, the prisoner fell in company with a negro by name Frank: the prisoner enquired of the deponent, if he had heard that the negroes were going to rise in arms and fight for their liberty, (being the first knowledge he had of the insurrection,) and the prisoner said the business would certainly commence on Saturday night then next ensuing, if it did not rain hail stones. The prisoner said they intended to sieze on some arms deposited at Priddy's Tavern: a negro by name Charles, having promised to conduct them to the spot where they were kept. In a conversation with the prisoner in the corn field, he remarked that he had procured as much ammunition as two persons could carry, and throwing his arms around Lewis, another negro present, said we have as much right to fight for our liberty as any men: and that on Saturday night they would kill the white people; that they would first kill Mr. Prosser and the neighbors, and then proceed to Richmond.
- Oct. 9,  
Norfolk Thomas Newton informs the Governor that the Fever had entirely disappeared from Norfolk.
- That some symptoms of insubordination had appeared among the negroes, but no communication seemed to have been held with others up the River. Militia need officers and arms.
- Oct. 10 Gervas Storrs informs the Governor of the surrender to him of Jack Ditcher, a negro man, for whose arrest a reward had been offered of \$300, charged with conspiracy and Insurrection.
- Asks that the sum of \$50 be paid to a free negro named Peter Smith, by whose persuasions Jack Ditcher had consented to surrender himself. Said Storrs relinquishes all claim to the reward of \$300.
- Oct. 11,  
Westmoreland Samuel Templeman informs the Governor of the escape from the jail of Westmoreland of two negroes, the property of the late Philip Lee, and named Winkey and Dennis, condemned to death.
- Oct. 27,  
Bowling Green John Hoomes informs the Governor that on Wednesday next several other negroes are to be tried at this place, and Ben is the only witness against them. If the Governor could send him up again it will be well. and he may take the Stage in the morning and be here in time. One of those to be tried was a General, and another a Colo., we hear.
- Two of those tryed on Tuesday last were condemned; one of them a lad about 18 years of age, and belongs to Mr. Paul Thilman. He has seen some of the Court who sat on his trial, and they are sorry he was not recommended to the Governor for mercy. Those Gentlemen, with himself, think if it is not improper to reprieve him for a few days, they will make inquiry of the rest of the Court, and if they should not succeed, he may be executed among the Generals and Colonels, for from what he hears they have no chance of escape.
- N. B.—Mr. Thilman's lad is called Scipio, and is to be hung on Wednesday next.

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer for Henrico County, held Oct. 1st at the Court House, negro man slave, the property of Allen Williamson, named Peter, was condemned to death on the charge of Insurrection. Execution ordered to be made on Friday, the seventeenth day of October, 1800. The court and examining magistrates in this case recommend the pardon of the prisoner Peter.

1800.  
October

[This paper is indorsed Pardoned.—Ed'r.]

The application by Philip N. Nicholas, Esq'r, to the Court of Oyer and Terminer, which tried and condemned a negro man slave named King, belonging to the said Nicholas, who was charged before that Court with "advising, consulting, plotting, and conspiring to rebel and make an insurrection among the slaves against the Laws and Government of this Commonwealth, &c.," to recommend the said "King" to the clemency of the Executive, being refused by the said Court, the undersigned members of the said court, willing to do whatever with propriety they can do to gratify the wish of the said Nicholas, have thought it fit to make the following statement of the evidence adduced on the said trial, as well on the part of the Commonwealth as on the part of said "King," to be submitted to the Executive. This statement is made with the aid of some notes, but principally from recollection, and while they will not pretend that *every minute circumstance is detailed in it*, they feel assured that no *material circumstance is omitted*.

*Evidence on the Part of the Commonwealth.*

Ben. alias Ben Woolfolk, a slave, 1st Witness—That about five or six weeks before (the time of the witness' examination), on a Sunday morning, he, the witness, came to Richmond, and brought with him some articles for market. That after the market was over, and after the bell had rung for sermon at the Capitol, about 9 or 10 or 12 o'clock, he left the market house to return homewards, having procured a bottle of spirits. That when he got near to the house of one Vanne he met with the prisoner. An indifferent conversation is commenced between them, as from the prisoner: "Do you not know me? My name is King, commonly called Governor's King." Answer—"I did not, but I have often heard my brother speak of you." Prisoner—"I know your brother very well." "Will you drink a dram with me." Prisoner—"I can't drink it without water." That water was procured, and the prisoner drank some mixed with spirit from the witness' bottle. There were other negroes around or near them. The conversation continued but had not grown more interesting, when a young gentleman came up on horseback and, after addressing to the prisoner a short but pretty tart reprimand for his not having gone to wait on dinner at Mr. Randolph's, as he had been directed, ordered the prisoner to go immediately into the lott. The pris-

1800.  
October

oner in reply muttered some excuse as "that his cloaths were bad," or "he had not had his new cloaths," or "he had not fit cloaths to wait at Mr. Randolph's," and went away before the gentleman, who followed. That the witness continued in the same place where he was, again in a short time joined by the prisoner. The prisoner spoke contemptuously of his master and of the white people. His language and deportment encouraged the witness and he asked him, "Are you a true man?" Prisoner—"I am a true-hearted man; your brother knows me if you do not." Witness—"Can you keep a *proper* or *important* secret?" Prisoner—"Yes." Witness—"The negroes are about to rise and fight the white people for our freedom." Prisoner—"I never was so glad to hear anything in my life; they ought to have taken that consideration a long time ago. I am and will be ready to join them at any moment. I could slay the white people like sheep."

The witness enjoined him to keep it a profound secret, which he promised to do; not to mention it to or in the presence of any woman. If he knew or should meet with any sound or true-hearted men, he might endeavor to enlist such, but he must know them well first; and witness did not see or converse with him afterwards. He took the prisoner to be sober, or he should not have told him the secret.

Mrs. Mary Martin. 2nd Witness—The prisoner and another negro who seemed to be travelling, having a bundle upon his back, came into her shop one night in the next week after the time said to have been appointed for the rising of the negroes, as the guards were going out or about; that the prisoner addressed himself to her in a surly and abrupt style, "Give me a gill of spirits and trust me." Witness—"I trust no body." Prisoner—"You won't trust me?" Witness—"No, I trust no body." Prisoner—"Well give me a gill or 4½ worth of spirits, and I will pay you for it." She drew it and handed it to him; he drank it with his comrade the apparent traveller; the latter also called for a gill of spirits which was handed to him, and was in like manner drank between them. In the shop were other negroes who divided the attention of the witness with the prisoner and his companion, who were conversing; she understood from their conversation that the traveller was going to see his wife; the prisoner said he wished he could go to see his wife; she asked him why he could not go; he answered, "it was too far, and that the white people had turned so comical, a man can't go out of his house now but he is taken up to be hanged." After some other conversation not particularly attended to by the witness, the prisoner told his comrade to tell their acquaintance where he was going, "We are all alive as yet, looking hard at the bacon but can't get at it." "We are doing what we can." "What we can't do with our guns we will do with our bayonets." "And that (touching his forehead with his finger,) no body knows what is here yet."

She had no bacon in her shop nor had they any that she saw.

*Evidence for the Prisoner.*

Col. Goodall's man, 1st—That on a Sunday he went to the house where the prisoner lodged about 12 o'clock and found him asleep: endeavored to awake him by calling him and lying on and rolling on him: the prisoner at length rose up on his bed and tore his shirt from the bosom almost to the tail but did not speak, and then lay down again: he smelt strongly of spirits as if he had been drinking, and he left him: that the witness has always been most intimate with the prisoner: would trust him with any secret and believes the prisoner's confidence in him was equally great: the prisoner never did trust him with any important secret: witness never heard a syllable of this conspiracy.

1800.  
October

Mr. Nicholas, 2d—That on Sunday, between one and two o'clock, he went on foot to where Vanne lives, and there found the prisoner in company with other negroes. Did not recollect to have seen the witness Ben. He went in search of the prisoner, whom he had directed to go to Mr. Randolph's that day to wait on dinner, intending himself to dine there. He did reprimand the prisoner, as related by Ben, and ordered him to go immediately to Mr. Randolph's. The prisoner spoke of want of cloaths, or their bad condition. He departed from Vanne's before Mr. Nicholas. Mr. N. went to dine with Mr. Randolph; the prisoner did not appear there. When Mr. N. returned home in the evening, on enquiry, he was informed the prisoner had been in the lott, made little stay there, and went away again. Mr. N. recollects to have seen his shirt much torn, and thinks it was on that day he observed it. He cannot say certainly the prisoner was drunk; the prisoner was habituated to drinking and has always or generally that appearance, insomuch that Mr. N. would not be able to distinguish when he was sober or drunk but for his loquacity when he is drunk or has been drinking; he then seemed disposed to talk much. He thinks it must have been between one and two o'clock when he saw and reprimanded the prisoner before witness.

Given under our hands this 3d day of October, 1800.

JAMES McCLURG, Mayor.  
GEO. NICHOLSON, Recorder.  
JOHN BARRET,  
WM. RICHARDSON,  
J. HERON.

At a court of Oyer and Terminer held for the city of Richmond, at the Courthouse, on Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of September, 1800, for the trial of King, a negro man slave, the property of Philip N. Nicholas, of the said city, charged with conspiracy and insurrection, the said King was condemned to be executed on Friday, the 3rd day of October, 1800.

1800.  
October

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer held for the county of Henrico on Wednesday, the first day of October, 1800, for the trial of Billy, a negro man slave, the property of Nathaniel C. Lipscomb, of the county of Hanover, charged with conspiracy and insurrection, the said Billy was convicted and condemned to be executed on Friday, the 17th day of October, 1800.

The Court, for reasons appearing sufficient, recommend the said Billy to his Excellency and the Council as a proper object of mercy.

[The paper containing the record of the above trial is endorsed "Par-doned."—Ed.]

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer held for the county of Henrico on Monday, the sixth day of October, 1800, for the trial of Gabriel, a negro man slave, the property of Thomas Henry Prosser, of the said county, charged with conspiracy and insurrection, the said Gabriel was convicted and condemned to execution on Tuesday, the seventh day of October, 1800.

*The Trial of Gabriel.*

Prosser's Ben—Gabriel was appointed Captain at first consultation respecting the Insurrection, and afterwards when he had enlisted a number of men was appointed General. That they were to kill Mr. Prosser, Mr. Mosby, and all the neighbors, and then proceed to Richmond, where they would kill everybody, take the treasury, and divide the money amongst the soldiers; after which he would fortify Richmond and proceed to discipline his men, as he apprehended force would be raised elsewhere to repel him. That if the white people agreed to their freedom they would then hoist a white flag, and he would dine and drink with the merchants of the city on the day when it should be agreed to.

Gabriel enlisted a number of negroes. The prisoner went with the witness to Mr. Young's to see Ben Woolfolk, who was going to Caroline to enlist men there. He gave three shillings for himself and three other negroes, to be expended in recruiting men.

The prisoner made the handles of the swords, which were made by Solomon. The prisoner shewed the witness a quantity of bullets, nearly a peck, which he and Martin had run, and some lead then on hand, and he said he had ten pounds of powder which he had purchased. Gabriel said he had nearly 10,000 men; he had 1,000 in Richmond, about 600 in Caroline, and nearly 500 at the Coal pits, besides others at different places, and that he expected the poor white people would also join him, and that two Frenchmen had actually joined, whom he said Jack Ditcher knew, but whose names he would not mention to the witness. That the prisoner had enlisted nearly all the negroes in town as he said, and amongst them had 400 Horsemen. That in consequence of the bad weather on Saturday night, an agreement was made to meet at the



Tobacco House of Mr. Prosser the ensuing night. Gabriel said all the negroes from Petersburg were to join him after he had commenced the Insurrection. 1800.  
October

Mr. Price's John—He saw the prisoner at a meeting, who gave a general invitation to the negro men to attend at the Spring to drink grog. That when there he mentioned the Insurrection, and proposed that all present should join them in the same, and meet in 3 weeks for the purpose of carrying the same into effect, and enjoined several of the negroes then present to use the best of their endeavors in enlisting men, and to meet according to the time appointed.

Ben. Woolfolk—The prisoner was present at the meeting at Mr. Young's, who came to get persons to join him to carry on the war against the white people. That after meeting they adjourned to the Spring and held a consultation, when it was concluded that in 3 weeks the business should commence. Gabriel said he had 12 dozen swords made, and had worn out 2 pair of bullet moulds in running bullets, and pulling a third pair out of his pocket, observed that was nearly worn out. That Bob Cooley and Mr. Tinsley's Jim was to let them into the Capitol to get the arms out. That the lower part of the Town towards Rocketts was to be fired, which would draw forth the citizens (that part of the town being of little value); this would give an opportunity to the negroes to seize on the arms and ammunition, and then they would commence the attack upon them. After the assembling of the negroes near Prosser's, and previous to their coming to Richmond, a company was to be sent to Gregorie's Tavern to take possession of some arms there deposited. The prisoner said, at the time of meeting the witness at Mr. Young's, that he had the evening before received six Guns—one of which he had delivered to Col. Wilkinson's Sam. That he was present when Gabriel was appointed General and Geo. Smith second in command. That none were to be spared of the whites except Quakers, Methodists, and French people. The prisoner and Gilbert concluded to purchase a piece of silk for a flag, on which they would have written "death or Liberty," and they would kill all except as before excepted, unless they agreed to the freedom of the Blacks, in which case they would at least cut off one of their arms. That the prisoner told the witness that Bob Cooley had told him if he would call on him about a week before the time of the Insurrection he would untie the key of the room in which the arms and ammunition were kept at the Capitol and give it to him, or if he did not come, then on the night of the Insurrection being commenced, he would hand him arms out as fast as he could arm his men, and that he had on a Sunday previous to this, been shown by Cooley every room in the Capitol.

*Testimony on Trial of Thilman's Dick.*

1800.  
October

Ben Woolfolk—The witness and others, in company with the prisoner, at Mr. Young's communicated the insurrection; they said they would join. On his way to Caroline he fell in with the prisoner at the bridge called Littlepage's. He enquired about the business and how they were to get arms, which being mentioned, he said he would certainly attend at the time and place appointed; that he could and would be at the place of rendezvous by 12 o'clock at night.

Question by the Prisoner—Who were present at the bridge at the time of the conversation above mentioned?

Answer—George, Scipio, Edmund, Thornton, belonging to Mr. Thilman, and Humphrey, belonging to Mr. Garland, all of whom agreed to join in the Insurrection and to give their attendance accordingly.

John Hoomes, George Buckner, David Coleman, John Baylor, Hay Battaile, and Reuben Chapman, Justices of the Peace in the county of Caroline, who composed a Court for the trial of Scipio, a negro slave, the property of Paul Thilman, for conspiracy and insurrection, do recommend the said Scipio to his Excellency the Governor as an object of mercy for the following reasons: The condemned slave is a young lad, not above 18 or 19 years of age. He appears to be a very ignorant lad, and lived on the same plantation with Mr. Thilman's man Thornton, who it appears enlisted the said Scipio, and who no doubt drew him into the conspiracy.

[Endorsed "Pardoned, Nov. 8th, 1800."—Ed.]

*Edmund Pendleton, Jr., to the Governor.*

My son, John Pendleton, shewed me on Wednesday last your letter to him requesting that in case the Court of Caroline should condemn any of the slaves then for trial, that he would take down in writing the testimony against them and inclose it to you. This he would with pleasure have done had time from the duties of his office in Court permitted him.

Presuming that it might be as satisfactory from my hands as his, I took down in rough the testimony given upon the trials of the three condemned slaves, which I have this day put fairly upon paper and send you herein.

I am, &c.

Commonwealth vs. Jack, alias Jack Gabriel, a negro slave—For conspiracy.

The trial of this slave came on at Caroline Court on Wednesday, the 29th day of October, 1800.

Ben alias Ben Woolfolk, sworn, said: That he saw Jack Gabriel at a preaching near Littlepage's Bridge, in the county of Caroline, on the Sun-

day fortnight preceding the night when the rendezvous of the black people was to take place at the Brook Bridge; that after the preaching was over, Jack Gabriel, with other negroes, came to a spring a small distance from the place of preaching, where he (Ben) and Thornton, belonging to Paul Thilman, had provided some liquor to treat their men. That he there informed them of the time and place of meeting, and that arms and ammunition would be ready for them. That Gabriel then said he was to be captain of a company, that he had enlisted several men and would come with them at the time appointed, if he was able to travel; if not, he would send his men by John Fells (a negro slave belonging to Mr. Carter), who was to be a Colonel upon that occasion.

1800.  
October

Primus, a slave belonging to Mr. Overton, sworn, said: That he was at the preaching spoken of by Ben, where he saw Jack Gabriel, Thornton, and Ben. That as soon as the preaching was over he left the place. Knew not of any persons engaging directly or indirectly to join in the conspiracy. That he also saw Edmund, belonging to Paul Woolfolk, at the preaching.

The Court were unanimously of opinion that Jack Gabriel was guilty and pronounced sentence of death against him, and to be hanged on the second Friday in November next.

The Commonwealth vs. John alias John Fells, a negro slave—For Conspiracy.

The trial of this slave belonging to Charles Carter (of Shirley,) came on before Caroline Court on Thursday the 30th day of October, 1800.

Ben alias Ben Woolfolk, sworn, said: That the said John Fells was at a preaching near Littlepage's Bridge in the County of Caroline, on the Sunday fortnight preceding the night when the rendezvous of the black people was to take place at the Brook Bridge. That after the preaching was over, John Fells came with other slaves to a spring a small distance from the place of preaching, where he Ben informed Fells of the time and place of meeting, and that arms would be provided for them. That Fells replied he was to act as a Colonel, and that if his men would not come with him, that he had enlisted, he would get a horse and ride down himself.

Edmund, a negro slave belonging to Paul Woolfolk, sworn said: That he saw the said Fells at the time and place of preaching stated in Ben's testimony, where he also saw Ben. That he is well acquainted with Fells. That after the preaching ended, he standing some distance from the spring, there saw Fells in company with Ben and others, and immediately left the place: does not know or ever heard of any negroes undertaking or engaging to join in the intended insurrection.

The Court was unanimously of opinion that John Fells was guilty, and fixed his execution to take place on the second Friday in November next.

1800.  
October

Commonwealth vs. Thornton, a negro slave—For Conspiracy.

The trial of this slave belonging to Paul Thilman, came on before Caroline Court on Thursday the 30th day of October, 1800.

Ben alias Ben Woolfolk, sworn as a witness said: That in the morning of the day that the preaching was to take place at Littlepage's Bridge in the County of Caroline, he stopped at Hanover Court-House, where he saw Thornton who told him that if he would wait a little time he would accompany him: that they shortly set out together from thence, and on the way he informed Thornton of the time they were to meet at the Brook to kill the white people; who replied he was damned glad to hear it was to take place so soon: that it being too early for the preaching to commence, he proposed to Thornton to go to Ellis's Tavern and buy some liquor to treat their men with that day which he agreed to, and they accordingly went where he (Ben) bought some spirits, and Thornton bought some sugar at Oliver's Store near the Tavern: from whence they went in company with Edmund, belonging to Paul Woolfolk, to the place of preaching near the Bridge: that when the preaching was over, Thornton with other slaves, came to the spring and there said he would be sure to bring his men at the appointed time: that he was a General, and was to go under the name or title of Colo. Taylor upon this occasion, and would make his men obey him. That on Monday morning being next day as he was passing the shop at Hanover Court-House where Thornton worked as a blacksmith; he went in and Thoanton there said, that they need not provide arms for his men, for he would do that himself, and pointed to some scythe blades then in the shop, which he said he would make to answer the purpose: that Ben then told him they were at a loss how to make cartridges; upon which Thornton immediately made one and gave it him as a sample: when he left the shop and knows no more of Thornton.

Edmund, a slave belonging to Paul Woolfolk, sworn as a witness said: Ben and Thornton came to his Master's together on the Sunday of the preaching; that he went with them to Ellis' Tavern, where they bought liquor, and from thence went to the preaching at the Bridge: that when the preaching ended, he stepped to the top of the hill, from whence he saw Fells and Thornton with other slaves at the Spring where Ben was, but that he immediately left the place and went direct to Mr. Taylor's plantation and knows nothing more.

The Court were unanimously of opinion that Thornton was guilty, passed sentence of death on him to be executed on the second Friday in November next.

*William Mosby Gives Information to the Governor of Intended Insurrection.*

Nov. 10,  
Henrico

On Saturday, the 30th of August last, about 10 or 11 o'clock, I received information from Mr. Mosby Sheppard, in Richmond, that the negroes

that night intended to rise, kill and destroy the white people, and that their place of rendezvous was on the Brook near Mr. Thos. H. Prosser's, and that Mr. Prosser, Mr. Johnston, and myself were the first that were to fall a sacrifice; that they were then to move on to Richmond. I asked him how he came by his information. He answered that he had received it from a negro immediately from the country, who had come down that morning for the express purpose; that he was agitated in such a manner when telling him that he was induced to believe it was true. I confess that I was very much alarmed, and communicated the news to Capt. Austin, who promised to go on the Brook that night with his troop of horse, in order to meet Mr. Dabney Williamson and myself with what men we could raise, but there came on the greatest rain perhaps ever known, which prevented our junction; however, Capt. Gregory, myself, and some others, who had met at Mr. Priddy's Tavern for the purpose of patrol as far as Mr. Prosser's, and from there to the Brook, but made no discovery. We then returned to the Tavern again, where I stayed perhaps till 8 or 9 o'clock next morning. I then went home, and, being very much fatigued, soon laid down. I had not been on the bed but a very little while before a negro woman of my own came to me, and the first word she spoke was "You must not tell." She then asked me if I had heard that the negroes were going to rise. I told her I had. I then asked her where they were to meet. She said somewhere about Mr. Prosser's, and as they did not meet last night they would meet to-night. I asked her how many she understood were to meet. She answered 300 or 400, some from town and some from the country, and that a number of them were to be mounted on horseback, who were to go at a distance and kill and destroy all as they went—to take them, as I understood her, in their beds—and that the main body was to move on to Richmond.

This, sir, is the information I received at the beginning of the alarm, delivered, as near as can be recollected, in the words in which I received it.

I am, &c.

[NOTE.—The above letter seems to have been written by request of the Governor for the purpose of being used in the preparation of his message of the 5th of December, 1800, as recorded in the Letter Book of that date.—ED.]

*John Hoomes Asks Reimbursement for Guarding Negroes.*

Asking how he is to be reimbursed for his outlay for the expenses attending negroes in the Jail of Caroline committed for insurrection, and the guard in attendance, which he has been providing for since their incarceration.

1800.  
Nov. 10,  
Henrico

Nov. 11,  
Bowling  
Green

*The Trial of Ned, the Property of William Young.*

1800.  
November Ben, the property of Thomas H. Prosser, deposes: That the prisoner was one of the conspirators; that he was a soldier under Ben Woolfolk; he contributed sixpence for the purpose of purchasing liquor to be treated with by Ben Woolfolk, in order to enlist men to fight the white people.

Extract.

A. BLAIR, C. C.

HENRICO, November 22d, 1800.

The underwritten, who sat on the trial of Ned, the property of Wm. Young, have since his trial and condemnation made inquiry into the character of said negro from the jailors and others, the result whereof is that he is a negro of very weak mind, and it is also stated that he was intoxicated at the time he enlisted. We further believe that had those circumstances appeared to the Court at the time of his trial, that he would have been recommended to the Executive as an object of mercy.

MILES SELDEN,  
BOWLER COCKE,  
GEO. WILLIAMSON,  
J. YOUNGHUSBAND.

*The Trial of Isaac, the Property of James Allen.*

Prosser's Ben Deposes: That the prisoner came to the shop and asked Solomon if he had cut the scythe blades to fight with, and at what time it would be that the Insurrection would commence; that if it was not soon he would go off, as he was determined not to serve a white man another year. Solomon asked the prisoner if he had a Scythe Blade, who replied he had not, and that Solomon must find one for him, which he promised to do, and Solomon shewed the prisoner the handles which he had for the Swords.

*The Trial of Laddis, the Property of John Williamson.*

Prosser's Ben Deposes: That he overtook the prisoner near Mr. Vannet's. Gabriel, who was then enlisting a negro, proposed that this Depo-  
nent should endeavour to enlist the prisoner for him; in consequence of which he made proposals to the prisoner to join, which he agreed to. That afterwards Gabriel asked the prisoner to enlist with him to fight the white people, to which he readily consented; this was previous to the meeting at Mr. Young's spring. Gabriel was to supply him with arms. The prisoner asked the witness where they were to get ammunition, who referred him to Gabriel.

Mrs. Price's John Deposes: That he saw the prisoner at Mr. Young's

Spring. The prisoner agreed to join Gabriel to fight the white people. Gabriel proposed that all who would join him should stand up, and those who would not to set down. The prisoner was amongst the standers up. He said he would join Gabriel and stand by him 'til the last, and appointed a day for meeting to consult further upon the business.

1800.  
November

*The Trial of Ben alias Ben Woolfolk, Belonging to P. Grayham.*

Mrs. Price's John Deposes: That about four weeks ago he saw the prisoner at Mr. Young's Spring. He enlisted with Gabriel to fight the white people, and promised to meet in three weeks, or thereabouts, for that purpose. Gabriel observed, we must slay them as we go; he, the prisoner, said he would do so. He was to have the title and command of Captain.

Prosser's Ben deposes: That he went with Gabriel on a Friday night to Mr. Young's to see Ben Woolfolk whom they found in bed: that he was waked by Sawney and got up. Gabriel gave him money to buy liquor to treat with in Caroline, whither he was shortly going to induce negroes in Caroline to enlist; he expected that he had already six hundred enlisted: he also told Gabriel that he had then six scythe blades in his room, which were to be made into swords by Gabriel, and was about to bring them out, which was prevented by its being inconvenient to Gabriel to carry them with him. That day fortnight, Ben Woolfolk was to meet about midnight at Prosser's Tavern, as he expected he could arrive there by that time with his men from Caroline. Gabriel said they would slay the white males from the cradle upwards, but the females of all ages were to be spared. The prisoner very readily agreed that this was the only way. (Condemned and full confession made.)

The County Court of Henrico, tried and condemned a negro man named Ned, the property of William Young, for the crime of conspiracy and insurrection, and ordered his execution on Friday the nineteenth day of September, 1800.

The County Court of Henrico on Monday, the first day of December, 1800, tried and condemned a negro man named Watt, the property of Thomas H. Prosser, of said county, on the charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and ordered the execution of the said Watt on the second Friday in December, 1800.

*Testimony on the Trial of Watt.*

Ben, a negro man slave, the property of Thos. H. Prosser, introduced as a witness on the part of the Commonwealth against Watt, a negro man slave, the property of the said Prosser, charged with conspiracy and insurrection, who, being charged, sworn, and examined agreeable to law, deposed: That the prisoner applied to him for information about the

1800.  
November

intended insurrection of the negroes, who replied that he knew nothing about it. The prisoner insisted that he should communicate the plan to him, for he knew that the witness was not uninformed, being so frequently in the company of Gabriel, with whom the said plan was said to originate. The witness still denied having any knowledge of it, and told him he had better make his application to Gabriel for the sought for information. He replied (as the witness knows to have been the case at that period) that there existed an enmity between himself and Gabriel, and that he should with reluctance apply to him. In a conversation between the prisoner and witness at a subsequent time, the prisoner told him he had made inquiry of Gabriel, who gave him full information, and that Gabriel had received him as one of his men upon his promise to raise about fifteen or sixteen men to fight the white people; that he would easily have that number; that he had several sons up the country that he knew would readily engage; besides that, he could at any rate raise the number of men required of him in Goochland county; that he had already furnished Gabriel with one pound of Gunpowder and two pounds of Lead. To the certain knowledge of the witness, the prisoner set off the Friday evening preceding the Saturday night appointed for effecting the plan to the county of Goochland, for the express purpose of raising his men, mentioned above. That at the time the plot was discovered by the white people, he had not returned, and has ever since kept out until taken. And further he, the deponent, saith not.

Taken down by Geo. Dunlevy, D. C. H. C.

*Thomas White to the Governor.*

Dec. 3

Some time in the month of August two negroes were apprehended upon suspicion of murder, and upon their Examination before me, each of them appeared guilty; that I thought it expedient to commit them to the Jail of Hanover for further trial. One of them, by the name of Julius, was acquitted, although the circumstances appeared stronger against him than Liberty. Upon the liberation of the former, the Court introduced him as a witness, and from his testimony alone condemned the latter, who is at this time under sentence of death.

Under these circumstances, I have taken the liberty of addressing your Excellency, praying that a reprieve may be granted the said slave, being well assured that at all times your Excellency would prefer lenity in criminal cases to vigorous measures, more especially when the criminal could not be condemned independent of the testimony that was thus adduced against him.

I have, &c.



*Benj. Duvall Informs the Governor of Necessity of Patrol.*

If there ever was a necessity for a patrol in this city there is certainly a necessity at this time.

1800.  
Dec. 25,  
Norfolk

In walking slowly along one of the cross streets just now, I heard a parcel of negroes talking, and hearing Norfolk, cowards, &c., I passed them, and then walked easily back to hear the subject of their discourse, and got near enough to hear them speak of the late alarm in Norfolk, and one observed that the business only required a beginning, and that there never was, or would be, a better time than the present; and cowards and liberty was several times expressed, conjoined with other words that I could not distinctly hear.

I am, &c.

*Wm. Austin Informs the Governor of Compliance with Instructions.*

In conformity to your instructions of last evening I called out a patrol of seven men from the Richmond Cavalry. I attended them, and found the citizens of this place and neighborhood very quiet. Is it your wish that a patrol be ordered out this evening? If it is, please inform me, that arrangements may be made before night, as it will probably be a wet evening.

Dec. 27,  
Richmond

I have, &c.

Thos. Newton transmits alarming accounts of Insurrection to the Governor as follows:

Dec. 29,  
Norfolk

On my way down from Richmond I received the most alarming accounts of an Insurrection at this place, which were told me in such a manner that I had reason to disbelieve them, and had only time, the boat setting off, to drop a line to Mr. Heron on the subject. On my arrival here I found the inhabitants had been alarmed by some seditious speeches, but I cannot find out the persons who made them.

The Inhabitants turned out with the greatest alacrity, but they have not arms, and are on that account only equal to the slaves except in numbers, which I believe far exceeds the blacks. We have always a great number of strangers here, and Seamen besides, who turn out well. As I before wrote you, our Militia are much deranged for want of officers, and very few inclined to accept of any.

In a few days I shall be up, and will wait on your Excellency and give every information in my power.

A vessel is arrived from London with accounts to 16th of Nov'r. The newspapers there speak more favorably of the Treaty with France than we are led to believe here from Congress. We have it at large, but have not yet seen it. This ship, I have heard, brought intelligence that the Congress is removed from Lunenville to Paris, and that the British was not to send ambassadors there.

I am, &c.

1800.  
Dec. 31

The following Slaves were tried and sentenced to death in Henrico court and Richmond Hustings Court:

Their valuation, is fixed by the court, as follows:

Jack alias Jack Ditcher, belonging to the Estate of William Bow-

ler, dec'd,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$400
Lewis To Dabney Williamson,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£110
Watt " Thomas Prosser,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£ 45
King " Philip N. Nicholas,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£ 80

ADAM CRAIG, C. C.

#### ADAM CRAIG TO PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS.

Sept. 13,  
Richmond

Has been sick, and as his clerks, James Blagrove and Andrew Stevenson, have been on guard for two days, his deputy, George Dunlevy, has been unable to attend to the duties of his clerkships, viz: Henrico Court, Hustings Court, and Common Hall of Richmond. Much business is pressing, and in particular numbers of free negroes and mullattoes have been applying for their registers, without which they are liable to imprisonment. Requests Mr. Nicholas to obtain for his clerks temporary exemption from guard duty.

#### ADVICE RESPECTING SWAN'S ARMS.

Sept. 15

It is advised that the arms now offered by Mr. Swan's agent as per sample in the C. Chamber, will be examined on the following conditions only: The arms to be hereafter produced are not to be inferior to the said sample, of which the Executive reserve to themselves the judgment. That the arms shall undergo the Proof of Double Charge, which shall be at the expense of Mr. Swan, the Powder and Ball only excepted. That the Duties, freight, &c., on arms shall be paid by Mr. Swan, and that they be delivered at the Penitentiary. That only such arms as are not broken and shall stand proof, will be considered as purchased. That six dollars be given for such as shall come under the above description.

Sept. 22,  
Fredericks-  
burg

James Allan, quarantine officer, informs the Governor that the crews of all vessels in port are healthy.

Sept. 22,  
Port of  
Richmond

George Nicolson informs the Governor that it is impossible to obtain a physician on vessels at the quarantine ground at Jordan's Point, and that provisions and fresh water are hard to obtain. Suggests that vessels be allowed to come to the Richmond Quarantine station.

Watts Parker writes to the Governor acknowledging receipt of commission as quarantine officer at Port Royal.

1800.  
Sept. 23

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have received your letter of the 23d inst, directing me to receive the arms now in the hands of the Militia, which were delivered out on the late occasion, and replace them with the arms destined for the several frontier counties mentioned in your letter, and then proceed to distribute them according to instructions heretofore received. This shall be done as soon as circumstances will permit—also to have the external plank wall completed without delay; for the security of the prisoners in the jail; the workmen are now employed in erecting it and I hope will complete it in a few days, I must here inform you that immediately after being instructed to have this plank enclosure made, I applied to the different furnishers of timber in the neighborhood of Richmond to supply the requisite timber for the purpose, none of them would consent to furnish it. I then wrote several letters to Mr. Jessie Payne, who resides fifteen miles from hence, who was the only person I had any hopes of getting the timber off; after a lapse of several days, Mr. Payne came and engaged to furnish it. He was prevented by sickness from supplying it until about four weeks ago. William Callis a carpenter had long before been engaged to build the plank wall as soon as the materials were brought in place, but when the timbers were furnished, Mr. Callis had no workmen to assist him in the erection of the enclosure, I then tried throughout the town to get a workman with a sufficient number of hands to execute the work immediately, but the militia of this and neighborhood being called into service, I could get but one carpenter, a Mr. Duke, with a few hands who with Wm. Callis and his workmen, are now building the wall; this has been the cause of the delay of that work.

Sept. 25

You likewise desire me to report the state of the Penitentiary Building and the Public Manufactory of Arms; also how far the several contractors who are concerned in the business have complied with their contracts.

The walls of the upper story of the Semi-circular part of the Penitentiary Building are about one-third built, six bricklayers are employed in erecting these walls, which I hope and expect will be ready to receive the circular roof in the course of five or six weeks. The brick work of this building would have been much more forward at this time, had it not been for the circumstance which I shall here relate, viz: The contract which Harvie & Winston entered into with the Executive to furnish the requisite quantity of bricks and lime for completing the walls of the buildings, as estimated by the former Superintendent, was complied with in the autumn of last year. The quantity of Bricks and Lime fell far

1800.  
Sept. 25

short of what was necessary for compleating the building, as will appear by a reference to the report on the state of this building which I gave to Governor Wood a few days previous to the commencement of the last session of the State Legislature, in which I stated the number of Bricks and quantity of Lime requisite for completing the building of that building. I was then directed by the Executive to advertise in the newspapers of this city that proposals would be received for furnishing the Bricks and Lime. The time for receiving these proposals was postponed in obedience to an order of the Executive directing me to continue my advertisement, which was done, and no proposals were accepted by the Executive until the month of February or March in the present year, 1800, when the proposal of Col. John Harvie was closed with by the Executive for furnishing the necessary Bricks and Lime. So that no preparations for making the bricks were made last fall, as it was not then known who would be employed to make them, and the public brick yard for that building was occupied by Harvie & Winston until the end of the season last year. Owing to this circumstance, we had but a few bricks which were not worked into the walls last season to recommence the walls with in the spring of the present year, so that but few workmen could be employed on the walls for want of bricks and lime. Since these materials have been furnished in sufficient quantity under the new contract (which has not been the case until a few weeks ago), I have frequently requested Mr. Martin Mims, the undertaker of the brick work, to augment the number of bricklayers, who says that he has employed all that he could procure. I have searched the town several times for bricklayers and have only been able to add one to Mr. Mims' company, and am well aware of the difficulty of procuring such workmen in Richmond or its vicinity. The workmen of Mr. Anderson Barret, undertaker of the carpenter work of this building, have been employed, since getting through the work of the east wing, in putting up the door and window frames of the west wing, and laying the floors of the area of that wing, which is designed for an infirmary. They are now engaged in laying the floors, hanging the doors, and ceiling the walls of the cells of the circular part of the building with oak plank, the roof for which is ready to be erected as soon as the walls are ready to receive it, and the sheeting plank and shingles are prepared to cover it. I have often called on Mr. Barret to employ a greater number of workmen on the building. He has made a small addition, and promises to increase the number of the workmen if possible, but I believe it to be a difficult matter to engage carpenters in this city at this time.

The blacksmiths engagad on the iron work of the Penitentiary, have finished the grates for the windows and tops of the doors of the several apartments of the building, excepting the grates for lower part of the Keeper's house and those for the arches which are to be erected on the

principal front, they have also made the lightning rods and are now employed in securing the windows of both the wings (which have wooden frames), with bars of iron, and in punching rivet holes through the sheet Iron, and riveting the doors together and making hinges for them.

The painting work undertaken by Mr. Charles Cox has made but a small progress. The cornice already erected and some of the doors and interior work of the east wing only being painted. I have often applied to Mr. Cox to go on with the painting work without effect.

I suppose the east wing, which is now wholly given up for the confinement of the Penitentiary criminals, will afford accommodation for at least fifty more than are at present confined therein, and the cells in the circular part are in considerable forwardness.

The buildings of the public manufactory of arms has not progressed agreeably to my most ardent wishes, owing to circumstances which are obvious to every person who has paid attention to the progress of that work from its commencement, which all depended on the foundations on which the buildings were to be erected. It will appear by referring to the contract between the Executive and Moses Bates (the only person engaged in that business), who undertook the clearing out of said foundations, that he was obligated by contract to keep only fifteen labourers employed in that business, which was certainly a number too small for the magnitude of that work; and it is well known that the walls were commenced as soon as foundations was ready on which to commence them; it is also well known that almost any building in which machinery to work by water is erected requires infinitely more digging than common building.

These works occupy a considerable space of ground. In several parts of the building, machinery to work by water is to be erected, and in order to use the same water three times in its descent from the Canal to the River (which will save a considerable annual expense in the price of the water), the foundations where these water-works are to be erected, must be dug deep enough to avail ourselves of all the fall of water of which the situation will admit, and although in proportion to the extent of the works no more digging is required for these foundations than the foundations of double-gear'd mills in general, yet it is a great work to be accomplished by fifteen hands in a short space of time. For want of the foundations, the stone work was not commenced this year untill a considerable part of the season had elapsed, and the brick walls which were to be erected on the stone work could not be begun untill the stone work upon which they depended was finished. Had we not been obliged to wait for foundations nor the stone work tediously carried on by the undertakers of that work, I doubt not but all the walls of the Manufactory of Arms would be finished in the present year. The want of foundations has also retarded the progress of the Carpenters' work of the

1800.  
Sept. 25

1800.  
Sept. 25

buildings, which could not be erected for want of the walls to which it is to be attached. It has not been for want of material or workmen in either brick or wood that these works are not in more forwardness than they are at present, but owing to the want of foundations on which to build, although Bates has kept the number of hands employed agreeably to his contract.

The walls of the two wings are in considerable forwardness, and will be roofed as soon as the walls are finished, and if the cold weather does not commence earlier this fall than usual, I hope the principal front as well as the wings will be built and covered in, in the course of the present season. The machinery to work by water is in greater forwardness than the work in any of the other branches, but the houses in which it is to be erected are not ready to receive it.

I am, &c.

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ELISHA C. DICK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 26,  
Alexandria

The health of the town is improving. Thinks there is great danger to the town in the great number of free negroes who live there, most of whom have come from Maryland. He has long considered the abolition societies as tending to produce at some period, the most serious calamities to the people of the Southern States, and it appears to him now, that immediate legislative measures have become necessary to restrain if not entirely suppress the schools supported by them. While these schools are constantly inculcating natural equality among the blacks of every description, they are teaching them with great assiduity the only means by which they can at any time be enabled to concert and execute a plan of general insurrection.

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RO. QUARLES, SUP'T, TO THE EXECUTIVE.

Sept. 29,  
Point of Fork

The militia ordered as a reinforcement to the Garrison are in a favorable state of training, and discharge their duty with great alacrity and attention. About \$400 needed to purchase clothes for the guard, if they are to be re-enlisted.

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CHARLES YANCEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 1,  
Buckingham

Recommending John Pittman as a Commissioner to conduct the Election in the room of Wm. I. Lewis, who is a non-resident of the county.

*A Quarterly Report from the Arsenal of Ordnance, Arms, and Military Stores, October 1st, 1800.*

1 16-inch brass mortar; 1 brass field-piece of 6 pounds; 7,175 muskets in good repair; 730 muskets with unground bayonets; 900 artillery and grenadier swords; 40 pigs of lead; 180 canister shot; 260 cannon shot; 30 rheams of cartridge paper; 18 barrels of flints; 1,650 pounds of ball and buckshot.

1800.  
Oct. 1

R. QUARLES, Sup't.

W. J. LEWIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Returning commission as Commissioner of Election for Buckingham on account of removal from that county, and recommending in his room Robt. Moseley, Jr.

Oct. 1,  
Campbell  
County

JOHN CLARKE AND GEORGE WILLIAMSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

In compliance with your request that we should examine the arms forwarded by Mr. Swan as a sample, and report to you our opinion of their value, and state such defects as we may discover them to have, and the expense which in our opinion would be incurred in rendering them fit to place in the hands of the militia when called into actual service, we report as follows, viz: That we have made examination of the sample of arms lately forwarded by Mr. Swan, and also of the arms lately deposited in the Penitentiary by Mr. Swan's agents, and are of opinion that the intrinsic value of said arms is five dollars and seventy-five cents per stand, exclusive of the cartridge boxes.

Oct. 2,  
Richmond

We discover in the said arms the following defects: The barrels are crooked and clumsily made, and are consequently heavier than necessary. The stocks are of a tender wood, and the workmanship badly executed. The mounting, tho' tolerably well executed, is rough and badly fitted to the stock. The locks are defective in their construction and in the execution of the workmanship, and are not well fitted into the stock. The screws of the several component parts are uncommonly indifferent. The bayonets are defective in point of form, and not having their sockets bored in the usual way, are not well fitted to the muzzle of the barrels. As these arms appear to be improperly constructed in some of their several parts, and the workmanship badly executed in every part excepting the ramrods, we do not conceive it possible that a perfect musket can be made of those defective parts; but as these arms appear to be of the same quality and in the same condition of the four thousand stand heretofore furnished by Mr. Swan, we suppose that the expense attending their being rendered as fit to place in the hands of the Militia as the

1800.  
Oct. 2,  
Richmond

former 4,000 required, will be incurred, or perhaps not so much, as the first 4,000 were taken to pieces, first, to be proven, and, secondly, to be cleaned.

Altho' the above is our opinion of the intrinsic value of the arms, yet if we should give an opinion as to the price which in our judgment ought now to be given for them, when we take into consideration the anxiety of the Executive that the law authorizing them to procure a supply for this Commonwealth should be carried into effect, and the defenceless state of our country for want of arms, and the difficulty of obtaining an abundant supply in any short period, which difficulty might be greatly increased by a rupture between our country and any foreign State, we do not hesitate to say that in our opinion a price considerably above the intrinsic value of the arms ought to be given for them.

We are, sir, with respect, your, &c.

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JOHN SHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 2,  
Philadel-  
phia

Enclosing bill of lading for four chests of arms shipped on sloop Little Jim, Robert Robinson master, to Samuel Coleman, Richmond.

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ROB. BROUGH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 3,  
Norfolk

The office of a Notary Public being vacated by the election of Mr. Thos. Newton, Jr., to a seat in Congress, I have been induced to offer my services.

I am, &c.

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T. BUCKNER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 4

Relating to 47 stand of arms shipped to York for the use of his Regiment, not received.

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JOHN CLARK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 6,  
Richmond

Informing him of the necessity of procuring more brick for the Armory than provided for in the first contract, and enclosing the proposition of John Harvie to furnish all that should be needed.

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ROGER GREGORY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 6

Asking for balance due him for furnishing troops stationed at Pridy's, amounting to £36.40½.



JAMES McCLURG TO THE GOVERNOR.

There being no watch at present in the pay of the city, I have no authority to order any out, and the Patrolls are, I believe, entirely under military direction. I can only, in obedience to your wish, solicit the commanders of the volunteer corps to furnish such a Patroll as you deem necessary, which I shall certainly do this night; and I must apply to the Common Hall to-morrow to enable me to comply with your request by establishing a watch.

1800.  
Oct. 7

I am, &c.

L. W. TAZEWELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending Mr. Marsh for appointment in Norfolk as a Notary Public.

Oct. 7,  
Williams-  
burg

WATTS PARKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Relating to the Quarantine at Port Royall and the danger to be apprehended from Baltimore vessels.

Oct. 7,  
Port Royal

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Enclosing Geo. Williamson's proposals for repairing the old arms at the Penitentiary.

Oct. 7

MAT. CHEATHAM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Relating to the removal of the arms from Manchester to the Penitentiary, by which the guard at Manchester may be discharged.

Oct. 8,  
Manchester

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have received your letter of this date requesting the loan of arms requested by Colo. Mayo, for the parade of his Reg't the day after to-morrow.

Oct. 9,  
Richmond

It would give me pleasure if that gentleman could be accomodated, without materially interfering with the arrangement made for the distribution of the public arms to their respective Regiments for which they are destined; but as the arms (except those which are yet in the hands of the militia and citizens of this city,) are arranged and packed up in

1800.  
Oct. 9,  
Richmond

boxes ready to be conveyed from hence, it will be impossible to furnish a Regiment with arms, without opening the boxes in which they are packed, which would derange the present plan for their distribution.

I am, &c.,

---

WM. MORGAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 11,  
York

There is only one vessel at this port at present that is performing Quarantine—Schooner Rising Sun, Capt. Lewis King. The crew are all well. From the change in the weather I hope that in a few days that the fever at Norfolk will entirely subside, and hope so soon as you have information thereof, you will be pleased to make it known to me. This town has not materially suffered in this respect. The vessels bound up this river has been compelled to perform Quarantine, but there is a number of crafts that belong to persons below here that have constantly traded to Norfolk, and have kept out of the reach of law; by which the merchants below here have been regularly supplied from Norfolk, and have considerably injured the trade of this place.

---

ROBT. McCORMICK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 13,  
Philadel-  
phia

Asking that Drafts for the payment of arms made by him be made payable in Philadelphia.

Informing him that alterations to be made in the Bayonets suggested by him could not be made in those already manufactured but could be in the next lot.

---

WATTS PARKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 14,  
Port Royall

Relating to violation of orders by Capt. Hunter of the Schooner Eagle, in taking his vessel up the Rappahannock when ordered to observe Quarantine.

---

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 16,  
Richmond

I have been attending at the Penitentiary since Monday morning last to receive the public arms from the militia of this city, a considerable portion of which have not yet been offered for delivery, owing, I believe, to the inattention of the men to the orders of their officers. Some entire companies have not yet delivered a single stand. To those officers who have delivered arms drawn on the late occasion, I have delivered as many other arms as they required for their companies (from those

destined for the several frontier counties mentioned in your memorandum to me), for which I have taken their receipts respectively. As there are now received a considerable number of the public arms from the militia, which are generally in bad order and require as much cleaning as they did when they were stamped, and conceiving it proper to commence the necessary preparations for their distribution, notwithstanding the whole are not yet returned, I applied to Mr. Geo. Williamson for the lowest terms upon which he would undertake to assort, clean, and box them in order to be sent to their destination. He informs me that he will not undertake that business for less than one shilling per stand. As this was the price at which he lately executed the same work, with the addition of stamping, I conceive it to be a price which ought not now to be given, the stamping being already done. I shall endeavor to get some other person to execute this work on better terms. I am anxious that Mr. Williamson should proceed with the Iron work for the manufactory of arms without interruption if possible. If you should think proper to send them to the Arsenal at the Point of Fork to have them prepared for distribution please to inform me thereof. Mr. Wight, of this city, requests me to inform you that he has a considerable quantity of good gunpowder which he wishes to dispose of at wholesale for two shillings and nine pence p'r w't. You will please inform me whether the Executive will purchase for the State or not.

I am, &c.

---

ROBT. QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeable to your last communication, I have proceeded this day to let contractor's office for the ensuing year for the supply of Rations at this Garrison. Eight different candidates handed in their proposals, a statement of which I have here inclosed. I have thought proper to close with Capt. Littlebury Weaver at nine cents, who has acted the last year in this capacity with credit and satisfaction. I should certainly have given him the preference on equal terms, but his being the lowest, rendered it indispensable. This circumstance, I understand, has afforded uneasiness to a certain George Anderson, a candidate, who talks of paying a visit to the Executive to have his grievances remedied, contending that his terms are more advantageous to the State than Weaver's.

Upon the same principle of consulting the public interest, I shall proceed to take Weaver's bond with security, as usual, for the due performance of his office, and trust I shall receive the sanction of your Excellency.

Our artificers are now engaged in repairing the arms lately received from Capt. Spears, of Cumberland. They are returned in wretched order.

1800.  
Oct. 16,  
Richmond

Oct. 18,  
State  
Arsenal

1800.  
Oct. 18,  
State  
Arsenal

I keep an account of the expenses attendant on cleaning and repairing of them, the recovery of which, from the respective officers, will be a subject of your Excellency's direction.

I have, &c.

JAMES TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

(Oct. 24,  
Norfolk

Inclosed I send you a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to the Collector of this port, directing him to pay to the Commissioners the sum due to the contractors of the Marine Hospital and other contingent charges, as per acc't forwarded by you, amounting to 6,185½ Dollars, on a cession being made to the United States.

This letter has lain dormant some time, as it came to hand after the death of Col. Byrd, and was not seen by me till a day or two ago. The present Acting Collector supposes that he must have satisfactory proof made of the cession to the United States before he can pay the money. The Act of Assembly is clear enough, but he is cautious. I will thank your Excellency to forward your directions respecting it as soon as convenient, as the Administrator of Borland is pressing to receive his demand, and the Commissioners are anxious to settle the business.

The Lots on which the Hospital stands, were bought—of Edmund Allmand two Lots, of Isabella Smallwood one Lott, as per deed. An Act of Assembly vested the other, belonging to James Herbert's orphan, there being other Land purchased for him of more value in lieu thereof, bringing in the whole four Lots to make a square.

I am, in behalf of the Commissioners, your, &c.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11th, 1800.

SIR:

The Secretary of the Navy, by his letter of the 30th ultimo, has requested that I would authorize you to pay to the Commissioners appointed under the Act of the Virginia Assembly for the establishment of a Marine Hospital, the balance due from them to the Contractor for said Hospital, and to take measures for obtaining a title in due form to the United States therefor, with which request of the Secretary of the Navy you will be pleased to comply. There appears to be a variation between the sum awarded to be due to the Contractor by the report of the Commissioners accompanying your letter of the 16th of June, and the account curr't signed by the Auditor, transmitted herewith—the former fixing the sum at six thousand dollars, and the latter making it £1,855.12, Virginia currency, equal to 6,185½ dollars. I will thank you, therefore, to enquire how this difference arises, as well to satisfy yourself previously

to the payment of the money, whether a good and sufficient title to the property can be vested in the United States.

1800.  
Oct. 24,  
Norfolk

The money, when paid, may be converted by you into a remittance to the Treasurer, by drawing and remitting to him a Bill in his favor on the Secretary of the Navy.

I am, with consideration, sir, your obed't serv't,

(Signed)

O. WOLCOTT.

Otway Byrd, Esq.

A List of those Militia officers who are delinquent in returning the public arms first drawn by them on the late alarm, stating the number of arms, &c., yet to be accounted for by them:

Oct. 31

	Muskets with Bayonets.	Bayonet Scabbards.	Cartridge Boxes.
Capt. Wm. Giles, - -	29	34	32
" Wm. Richardson, - -	3	8	
Lieut. John Trower, - -	8	53	8
Capt. Alex'r McRae, - -	7	7	25
" Wm. Smith, - -	7	17	9
" John Dixon, - -	2	3	7
" John Strobia, - -			43
Lieut. Sam'l McTraw, - -	1	7	1
Lieut. Charles Barret, - -	57	57	57
Capt. Thos. Nicholson, - -	14	17	20
Major Rich'd Adams, - -	13	13	15
Capt. John Moody, - -	5	5	5
Ensign Leighton Wood, - -	9	9	9
Ensign John Glyn, - -	10	10	10
	<u>165</u>	<u>240</u>	<u>241</u>

The following are those private citizens who drew public arms by orders of members of the Council of State who have not yet returned them:

Daniel L. Hylton, - - - - -	1 stand.
Alexander Stewart, - - - - -	1 Do.
John M. Smith, - - - - -	1 Do.
John Brown, - - - - -	1 Do.
Frederick Powell, - - - - -	1 Do.
	<u>5 stands.</u>

## JOHN SHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
Oct. 31,  
Philadel-  
phia

Your Excellency's favor of the 20th inst. inclosing a note for Mr. Zard was received yesterday. I immediately delivered it at his counting house, he being from home, and soon as an opportunity offers for your city, shall apply for and with much pleasure ship you the wine and other articles he no doubt will deliver me.

Mr. McCormick does not punctually comply with his engagement in the stipulated weekly delivery of fifty muskets.

His contract I believe embarrasses him, and it mortifys me not a little, that notes drawn on your respectable State should be hawked about and sold so much under their value.

I believe the poor fellow disposed of my last Draft for about eleven hundred dollars at the loss of one hundred and twenty.

I am, &c.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 1.  
Richmond

Informing him of the reported intention of Jesse Payne, a contractor for furnishing timber, to remove in a few days to a frontier county, without accounting for advancements made him. Also requesting a contract to be made with John Harvie for Bricks and Lime for the Manufactory of Arms.

## FELIX D. ST. HILLAIRE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 3.  
Washington  
City

I take the liberty of enclosing herewith a certificate of my residence in the Town of Winchester and State of Virginia, and request your Excellency to have the goodness of giving it authenticity by setting your private seal to it.

I have the honor to be, &c.

Intending to sail for Europe in a few days, I beg your Excellency to be so indulgent as to return the paper by the next mail.

We, the underwritten, do hereby certify that Anthony Felix de Hillaire, who at present resides in the city of Washington, resided in this place from the fifteenth day of September, 1793, until the 10th day of February, 1799, and that his deportment within that period of time was unexceptionable.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands at Winchester, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, this 29th day of October, 1800.

J. PEYTON.

E. SMITH.

Certificate of Robert Pollard, Clerk of the County Court of King and Queen, that Philip Pendleton, appointed Sheriff for said county on the 9th day of August, last hath failed to give bond for the faithful performance of the duties of Sheriff.

1800.  
Nov. 4

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ROBT. CAMPBELL, COMMANDANT 105TH REGIMENT, TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have enclosed the recommendations of the Court of Washington for Militia Officers to your Excellency.

Nov. 6,  
Abingdon

There is a number of Militia now living between what is called Henderson's and Walker's line, bounding on the State of Tennessee, who refuse to do Militia duty. I have ordered the officers commanding companies adjacent to those lines to enroll the Militia, and a number of them have since been fined by a Battalion Court of Inquiry as delinquents, and their fines have not been remitted. The Sheriff has since applied to the Court Martial to have them certified as delinquent, alleging that they could not be collected, but the Court Martial refused to certify any that had property. I would be glad to have the advice of the Executive if an armed force shall be ordered to enable the Sheriff to collect the fines if resistance should be made, and whether the law ought to be enforced as far as the Walker's line.

I am, &c.

---

ROBERT BROUGH TO JOHN PENDLETON.

Soliciting appointment as Notary Public in Norfolk in the room of Sam'l G. Harrison, dec'd.

Nov. 14.  
Norfolk

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Relating to proposed modifications in the contract of John Harvie for bricks and lime for the Manufactory of Arms. Also to that with Jesse Payne for timber for same building, and loss sustained by premature delivery.

Nov. 14

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ALEXANDER GREEN TO THE GOVERNOR.

There has come a very difficult case before me as Escheator of Culpeper County, and I am told the only way to get counsel to assist the Attorney for the Commonwealth is to apply to you.

Nov. 26,  
Culpeper  
County

The case is Edmund Harell possessed of a tract of land in this county in the year 1734. I can find no man that has ever seen him. I have had

1800.  
Nov. 26,  
Culpeper  
County

one escheat and therein said that he had been absent more than 30 years, but the District Court has said we must say he is certainly dead.

There is a man now that claims as heir that was silent before. He has employed two or three as counsel for him, and I think myself the right is in the Commonwealth if they can have justice.

Mr. Walker from Albemarle is at present Attorney for the Commonwealth. You will please let me know as soon as convenient what I am to do.

I have, &c.

---

CHRISTOPHER CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 26,  
Bedford

Inquiring whether Mr. Joseph Holt a justice of the peace by accepting the appointment from the Federal Government for taking the census in Bedford County, did not thereby forfeit his right to sit again as a Magistrate without having a new recommendation by the Court, and a new commission from the Governor.

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DAN'L DAVIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 29,  
Bentivoglio

Renewing his application for appointment as Sup't of arsenal at Richmond.

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SAMUEL MARSH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 29,  
Norfolk

Soliciting appointment as Notary Public of Norfolk.

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HENRY HIORT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 29,  
Norfolk

Soliciting appointment as Notary Public of Norfolk.

---

JOHN MORRISON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 29,  
Norfolk

Solicits appointment as Notary Public for Norfolk.

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J. BROWN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 30,  
Richmond

Requesting to have a room for an office as clerk of the Court of Appeals assigned him, the committee room heretofore used by him in the Capitol having been called for by a Committee.



A. ANDERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking to be reimbursed for the hire of a wagon sent by him from Staunton to Lynchburg, to bring back 109 stand of arms consigned to Mr. Novel of that city for the use of the 32nd Regiment. Cost of wagon hire twenty-four dollars.

1800.  
Dec. 2,  
Richmond

The Hustings Court of Richmond city, tried and condemned a negro man named Billy the property of Jane Horner of the county of New Kent, for breaking and entering the Rockett's Warehouse, and stealing from thence a quantity of Tobacco valued at twenty dollars. It is the unanimous opinion of the Court that the said Billy is guilty of the felony with which he stands accused, (and it appearing to the Court from the records of the County Court of Henrico that the prisoner for a previous offence, upon conviction of felony before the said County Court was allowed the benefit of Clergy,) therefore it is considered by the Court that for the present offence the said Billy be hanged on Friday the 23rd day of Jan'y, 1801.

IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,  
Tuesday, Dec. 2nd, 1800.

Resolved, The Executive be requested to lay the journal of their proceedings before the General Assembly.

In which the Senate concurred.

WM. WIRT, C. H. D.

The Senate in conjunction with the House of Delegates proceeded to the election of four Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, in the room of four who had been elected pursuant to the Act of the General Assembly who failed through non-attendance. The ballots being counted, it appeared that a majority of votes were given in favor of Daniel Coleman of Caroline, John Shore of Prince George, Daniel Carroll Brent of Stafford, and John Bowyer of Rockbridge, Esq's.

Dec. 2

Teste:

H. BROOKE, C. S.

Virginia, to-wit—By the Governor:

RICHMOND, December 3rd, 1800.

Be it known that the following persons were duly appointed Electors for the purpose of choosing the President and Vice-President of the

1800. United States in conformity to the Constitution and Laws of the United  
Dec. 2 States and the Laws of this Commonwealth, viz:

George Wythe, of the city of Richmond; William Newman, of Princess Anne; William H. Cabell, of Amherst; James Madison, Junior, of Orange; John Page, of Gloucester; Thomas Newton, Junior, of Norfolk; General Joseph Jones, of Dinwiddie; William B. Giles, of Amelia; Creed Taylor, of Cumberland; Thomas Reade, Senior, of Charlotte; George Penn, of Patrick; Walter Jones, of Northumberland; Richard Brent, of Prince William; William Ellsey, of Loudoun; General John Brown, of Hardy; General John Preston, of Montgomery; Hugh Holmes, of Frederick; Archibald Stuart, of Augusta; Dr. John Shore, of Prince George; General John Bowyer, of Rockbridge; Daniel Coleman, of Caroline.

JAMES MCCLURG, MAYOR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 3,  
Richmond

Your letter of the 28th of November having been communicated to me yesterday by Mr. Taylor, I took the earliest opportunity of consulting the Common Hall upon the subject of it, and find in them an unanimous disposition to accommodate the Government. They seem, however, to believe that the bell cannot be removed without considerable injury to the building in which it is fixed, but are confident from the tenor of your Excellency's note, that the expense of removing and replacing it in its present situation, together with the necessary repairs of the building, will be borne by the Government, and that it will be restored as soon as the public occasion for it ceases.

I am, with the greatest respect, yours, &c.

IN THE SENATE,  
Thursday, *December 4th, 1800.*

The House by joint ballot with the House of Delegates proceeded to the choice of a Public Printer. Upon the count of the ballots it appeared that a majority of the votes was cast in favor of Meriwether Jones, Esq.

G. DENEALE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 4,  
Alexandria

Inclosed you will receive a bill of lading for nine boxes containing small arms, &c., as per my report inclosed.

I have found it extremely difficult to collect the arms from the people, and have now been obliged to forward what I have been able to collect without receiving the whole. The Mayor of the town informs me that he will have them shortly collected or paid for.

The 60 stand of arms loaned to a company of Light Infantry in 1794, and now commanded by Capt. Winterberry, I have not been able to collect, owing to the dispersed situation of the men; but fourteen of the number now sent, are brass-mounted muskets, and I suppose worth more money than the 60 stand forwarded to this place. However, I shall endeavor to get the remainder as soon as possible, and shall inform you accordingly.

1800.  
Dec. 4,  
Alexandria

The vessel which carries these arms is owned by Col. George Gilpin, of this town, and will be a safe opportunity for forwarding the arms intended to be forwarded to this place.

I have, &c.

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IN THE SENATE,  
Thursday, *December 4th, 1800.*

The House proceeded with the House of Delegates to the election of an Attorney-General in the room of Robert Brooke, dece'd. Upon counting the ballots it appeared the majority votes fell upon Philip Norborne Nicholas, Esq'r.

H. BROOKE, C. S.

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GENERAL COLLOT TO THE GOVERNOR.

States that he has just addressed a letter to Gen'l Mason requesting him to forward it to the Gov'r. From its contents the latter would see that the writer, through zeal for Virginia, had engaged with Mr. Swan in furnishing him both money and credit. If the arms are as good as he has reason to believe, he hopes the Gov'r will immediately order payment to be made, as if this is not done loss will fall on him, the writer, instead of Mr. Swan.

Dec. 10,  
Paris,  
France

[NOTE.—The above is an abstract of a French letter.—Ed.]

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JAMES ALLAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sending account for services, &c., and asking speedy payment.

Dec. 4,  
Fredericks-  
burg

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JOHN SHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Relating to the shipment of arms by Rob't McCormick on sloop Sally, Capt. Webb, for State of Virginia.

Dec. 17,  
Philadel-  
phia

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 JAMES WILLIAMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
Dec. 18,  
Orange Co.      Relating to the rank of Capt. Lightfoot and inclosing his commission,  
to be replaced by a new one.

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## GEORGE WHEELER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 20,  
Richmond      Asking for an advance of four thousand dollars on his contract for  
arms being manufactured by him.

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## GEORGE WHEELER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 20,  
Richmond      Proposals of self and Mr. John Bront, of Maryland, to manufacture  
four thousand stand of arms for the State by June 1st, 1802: For Rifles,  
seventeen dollars and fifty cents; with Bayonets, eighteen dollars; Pis-  
tols, fourteen dollars per pair.

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## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 20      In compliance with your instructions, I consulted Mr. Anderson Bar-  
ret and Mr. McKim, the only candidates for the carpenter's work of the  
Keeper's House of the Penitentiary building, to know the lowest terms  
upon which either of them would undertake the said work, and returned  
to each of them the papers containing their former proposals, to alter  
them as they might think proper. Each of the gentlemen have made  
alterations, and my motive for enclosing their proposals, now they are  
altered, is, that you may see that Mr. Barret's terms are lowest, and that  
you may direct me to enter into contract for the work, as I wish to avoid  
any supposed partiality on my part by either of the applicants.

I am, &c.

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## WILLIAM BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 23,  
Treasury      The balance in the Treasury on Saturday the 20th inst., was about one  
hundred and nineteen thousand dollars.

From a reference to the appropriation laws, it will be found that one  
hundred and fifty-six thousand dollars have been appropriated for the  
purchase of arms, and about forty-four thousand four hundred and ninety  
dollars out of the sum appropriated, paid.

The whole revenue being thrown into one general fund, and equally answerable for all expenses, it is impossible for me to state what balance will remain for the purchase of arms, after all other objects appropriated for are satisfied.

1800.  
Dec. 23,  
Treasury

I am, Sir, &c.

JAMES GARRARD, GOV. OF KENTUCKY, TO THE GOVERNOR.

I do myself the honor to inclose to your Excellency a copy of an Act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, passed Dec. 12th, 1799, entitled an Act establishing the boundary line between the State of Virginia and this Commonwealth. With perfect respect,

Dec. 27,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky

I am, &c.

PICKETT, POLLARD & JOHNSTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

We have now to confirm what we formerly mentioned to you on the same subject—viz., that the offer made by the Executive for the 4 M. stand of arms which we have for sale cannot be accepted.

Dec. 29,  
Richmond

But before we remove them, we think proper to make you an offer of them at the lowest price at which they can go, which is nine Dollars p'r Stand for such as bear proof. The expense of proving to be born by the State.

We will thank you for an answer as soon as convenient, and have the honor to be,

Yours, &c.

P. FULKERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending Benjamin Robinson as collector of the Tax of 1795 in Russell County.

Dec. 31

A statement of the 4,000 stand of arms, the late purchase of Mr. Swan:

Dec. 31

4,000 proved,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000
Bursted in proving,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Broken Stocks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Broken in Locks and some Britches,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
										<hr/> 31

## WM. BERKELEY, TREASURER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

1800.  
Dec. 31,  
Treasury

The sum estimated by the Honorable Legislature as sufficient to discharge the claims for slaves executed being entirely exhausted, and those claims are and will be greatly increased by the late serious Insurrection, permit me to call the attention of your Excellency and the Honorable Board to the subject, and at the same time to solicit you to give me the earliest information, as a claim to a considerable amount has been presented, which I have requested the Gentleman to wait for until I could communicate with your Honorable Board.

I am, &c.

## WM. BERKELEY, TREASURER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 31      Informing him that a gradual decrease of the funds in the Treasury during the Spring and Summer must be expected and calculated on. That the balance on the first inst. is Fifty Thousand seven hundred and fifteen dollars and forty-eight cents.

I am, &c.

Dec. 31      The Board feeling great anxiety that the Law authorizing the Executive to procure a supply of arms for the use of the Commonwealth should be carried into effect, and having by a former advice consented to purchase on certain conditions the arms lately imported by Mr. Swan, which conditions have not been accepted by Mr. Swan's agents, advise that George Williamson and John Clarke be requested to examine the arms forwarded by Mr. Swan as a sample, and to report their opinion as to the value of them, stating at the same time the defects in their component parts, and also an estimate of the expense which would attend the alterations and improvements necessary to render them serviceable and proper to arm the Militia destined for actual service.

The Board have no objection to the arms which are at present on the wharf being removed by Mr. Swan's agent to the Penitentiary for safety, at the public expense, but to be at the risk of Mr. Swan.

## COTTON &amp; STEWART TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 31,  
Alexandria

Proposing to supply the requisite number of copies of the Militia Laws to be furnished by the Governor to the Militia Officers of the State and others.

THOMAS H. BAYLY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting sixty-four stand of arms for a company of Light Infantry belonging to the Second Regiment of Militia, of the county of Accomac.

1800.  
Dec. 31,  
Accomac

In the county there are two Regiments of Militia, viz: the Second and Ninety-ninth, one company of Volunteers, and one company of Volunteer Horse.

I am, &c.

IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,  
*December 31st, 1800.*

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to correspond with the President of the United States on the subject of purchasing lands without the limits of this State, whither persons obnoxious to the laws or dangerous to the peace of Society may be removed.

Dec. 31

A copy from the journals of the House of Delegates.

WM. WIRT, C. H. D.

THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have used my endeavors to transport Sam Brown, a negro man, sent by your Excellency's order from Smithfield. No owner of a vessel can be prevailed on to take him out, as they may be subjected to inconveniences by the Laws of the Island of St. Croix, where his owner lives. He will want cloathing if kept during the winter in prison.

Dec. 31,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

Capt. Elihu Merchant, who, with his men, is confined in the Richmond jail, writes to the Governor, informing him of their great suffering from cold.

1801.  
Jan. 4

William Berkeley and Wilson Cary Nicholas give bond in the sum of one million dollars for the faithful performance by the former, of his duties as State Treasurer.

Jan. 7

Bond in the sum of one million dollars of William Berkeley as State Treasurer. Bondsmen: William Berkeley. Carter Berkeley. William Randolph (of Wilton). Burwell Bassett. Lewis Berkeley. and William Hickman.

Jan. 7

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 WM. BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

1801. Submits to the Executive the advisability of selling the public tobacco  
Jan. 16 which was in the Treasury October 1st.

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 JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 20, Stating that he had thought it necessary, as the armory buildings were  
Land Office not completed, to hire Colonel Quarrier's shop for the purpose of storing  
the machinery for the manufacture of arms.

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 WM. PRICE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 20 The considerable hurry of business occasioned by the meeting of the  
Legislature has until now prevented my complying with your request of  
the 16th of December.

Having made use of the first opportunity in ascertaining (as far as in  
my power) the proportions of expense chargeable to John Harvie and  
Charles Lewis, I now hasten to make the following communication:

4,869 plots and certificates, contained within five books, are chargeable  
to Charles Lewis.

18,088 plots and certificates, forming seventeen books, are chargeable to  
John Harvie; which together with five other books, containing

5,409 plots and certificates of survey, comprises the whole number  
recorded by the contractor.

28,366

This last description of surveys appears to have been received by John  
Harvie previous to his being placed on the civil list. After which, it is  
believed stationary was furnished, as was Mr. Lewis, his successor.

I am, &c.

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Jan. 20 Daniel L. Hylton qualifies as Clerk of the Privy Council.

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 WM. MORRIS AND JOHN G. BROWN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 20, A law having passed authorizing the Executive to dispose of certain  
Richmond slaves now under condemnation, and wishing to become the purchasers,  
we make the following propositions: We are willing to take seven of  
them at their valuation, Watt being in a situation (from his feet being



frost bit) that it will be out of our power to take him on with the others. We wish to have them delivered in Staunton, from which place we think we can take them on with safety. If the above proposition meets with the approbation of the Executive, we wish to have the bargain concluded to-day, so that we may set out immediately.

1801.  
Jan. 20,  
Richmond

We are, &c.

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JOHN STRODE TO THE GOVERNOR.

States that he has visited the small arms factory of Mr. Geo. Wheeler, and inspected and passed 106 muskets manufactured for the State. Had also inspected 146 unstocked barrels, of which 136 stood proof.

Jan. 21,  
Culpeper

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RICHARD KENNON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking that the arms for the 22d Regiment and the one in Lunenburg may be sent to James Scott & Company, in Manchester, from whence they will be carried by his wagons.

Jan. 30,  
Petersburg

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Balance in Treasury, \$44,433 00.

Jan. 31

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THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. Wm. Pennock, agent for the Navy, has just informed me that Capt. Barón, of the Chesapeake Frigate, has sent in here a vessel belonging to one of the N. England Governments, which had a cargo of slaves on board bound to the Havanna from Guinea. About 30 slaves are now on board the prize; the remainder were taken on board the Frigate, for the vessel was short of provisions and too thick stowed to proceed with the whole of them. Capt. Baron's humanity is much applauded in doing it, as it has probably saved the lives of so many human beings. The vessel is moored at Craney Island, and none will be permitted to land. I shall be obliged to your Excellency for instructions how I am to act on this subject, as it is a new case. Mr. Pennock has wrote to the Secretary of the Navy on the subject, but as our Laws prohibit the importation, and the Law of Congress directs the capture of vessels trading to Guinea, I am at a loss how to act.

Feb. 4,  
Norfolk

I shall be exceedingly obliged to your Excellency to appoint an examining Physician for this port; his fees should only be for the vessels he

1801.  
Feb. 4,  
Norfolk

visits, and that by the Law I am of opinion the vessel should pay, but it has been customary for the State to pay it. Your orders shall be pointedly obeyed.

I am, &c.

About 30 slaves are bro't in.

25 Do. on b'd Chesapeake Frigate.

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THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 5,  
Norfolk

Asking that a copy of the Quarantine Law passed at last session be sent him.

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WM. PRICE, REGISTER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 7,  
Land Office

In conformity to yours of the fifth Inst., I now do myself the pleasure of inclosing you two distinct accounts against Col. John Harvie and Charles Lewis. Not having known the usage of this office at the time Col. Harvie was entitled to the fees thereof; I have had recourse to the Act of Assembly passed in 1779, "Establishing a Land Office," &c., under which it appears the Records of the office were furnished at the public expense, and not finding any repeal of that part of the Law furnishing the records, I have therefore only charged the recording and alphabetting, which I presume to be the whole claim which the public can have against the Gentlemen for not recording the Plotts and Certificates alluded to in the Resolution of 1794.

I am, &c.

John Harvie (former Register of the Land Office),

To the Commonwealth of Va., Dr.

To recording 23,497 plotts and certificates of survey, agreeable to a Resolution of Assembly passed 22nd of December, 1794, and order of the Executive of the 25 January, 1797, at 1s. each,	-	\$3,916 17
To alphabetting 22 Record books containing the above, at 8		
Dollars each,	- - - - -	176 00
		<hr/> \$4,092 17

WM. PRICE, Register.

Land Office, 7th of Feb'y, 1801.

A copy—the original sent to the Att'y-General.

SAM COLEMAN.

Charles Lewis, Esq'r (Late Register of the Land office),

To the Commonwealth of Virginia, Dr.

1801.  
Feb. 7,  
Land Office

To recording 4,869 Plotts and Certificates of Survey, agreeable to a resolution of Assembly passed the 22nd of Dec'r, 1794, and an order of the Executive of the 25th of January, 1797, - - - \$811 50  
To alphabetting 5 Record books containing the above, at \$8 each, 40 00  
\$851 50

WM. PRICE, Reg'r.

Land Office, 7th February, 1801.

PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your favor of yesterday with its inclosures I duly received, and have considered with much attention the subject upon which you request my opinion.

Feb. 11,  
Attorney-  
General's  
Office,  
Richmond

By an Act of Congress passed on 22d of March, 1794, entitled "An Act to prohibit the carrying on the slave trade from the United States to any foreign place or country," after a clause prohibiting the slave trade to be carried on by any citizens or residents of the United States to any foreign country, it enacts, "and if any ship or vessel shall be so fitted out as aforesaid for the said purposes, or shall be caused to sail so as aforesaid, every such ship or vessel, her tackle, furniture, apparel and other appurtenances shall be forfeited to the United States, and shall be liable to be seized, prosecuted and condemned in any of the Circuit Courts, or District Court, whence the said ship or vessel may be found and seized." This act although it provides for the forfeiture of the vessel, &c., in case it is contravened, is silent as to the disposition of any slaves that may be found on board any vessel engaged in this illicit trade. The Act of the Virginia Assembly which passed upon the subject of the importation of free negroes and mulattoes into this Commonwealth on the 10th of Dec., 1793, in the 4th Sec. declares, "That in case any slave shall be brought or come into this State from Africa or the West India Islands, directly or indirectly, upon information thereof given to any Justice of the Peace, it shall be his duty to cause such slave to be apprehended immediately, and transported out of this Commonwealth, and the expence attending such transportation shall be paid by the person importing such slave, recoverable in the name of the Justice directing such slave to be transported by warrant before a single Magistrate. It is clear from this clause of the Act of Assembly, that persons of the description therein mentioned, were intended by the Legislature to be entirely excluded from the State limits, since it makes it the duty of the Magistracy to cause such slaves to be apprehended immediately and transported out of the Commonwealth.

The Act of Congress does not conflict with this Act in its provisions

1801.  
Feb. 11,  
Attorney-  
General's  
Office,  
Richmond

since it is silent as to the disposition of negroes on board of vessels engaged in this traffic. I am aware that it may be said that the power to try such vessels in the Courts of the United States, necessarily gives the power to bring such vessels and their cargoes into any port of the United States. I am also aware that the laws of the Union when constitutionally made, are paramount to the State laws, and that where there is a conflict, the latter must yield to the former. I cannot, however, think that a State law can be repealed and nullified by an Act of Congress by a side wind or new implication. The provisions of the Act of Congress ought to be express, and if such act can exist and be reconciled with the State law, I do not think that the State law will be construed to be repealed.

As I see nothing in the Act of Congress interfering with the act of our Assembly, I suppose the latter is still in force.

If it be so there can be no doubt that the negroes which are mentioned in Col. Newton's letter, and which are stated to come from Africa, are excluded by our laws from this State.

I am, &c.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 15 Describing the house near Rocketts called the Hemp Inspection house, with opinion as to removing it and fitting it up for a Barracks for the Armory Guard, which he approves.

Enclosing proposal of John Lester for renting the above named house and lot for seven years, which he disapproves.

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JOHN CLARK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 17 Estimate of the expense of fitting up the Hemp Inspection house for a Barracks for the Guard, with some additions, £500.

Opinion as to the suitability of the property of Mr. Fox for the Barracks. This property he recommends in the event that an Arsenal and Powder Magazine is proposed to be provided, to which purpose it is well adapted.

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PICKETT, POLLARD & JOHNSTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 19,  
Richmond

We are authorized to offer you 4,000 stand of arms, now in the Penitentiary, for thirty thousand dollars, being seven and an half dollars per stand.

We are, &c.

## SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

As desired in your letter of the 21st inst., I have called on Mrs. Shepard, the owner of Tom, one of the negroes who communicated to Mosby Shepard the first intelligence respecting the late intended insurrection of the slaves, and delivered her your letter, by which she is informed of your authority and wish to purchase Tom, and desired to state the lowest price she is willing to take for him. Mrs. Shepard is a widow in whom the ownership of Tom is vested during her life. At her death he, with the other property she possesses, is to be sold, and the product of the sale is to be divided among her children, who have expressed their willingness that Tom should be now sold and emancipated, and, as far as they are concerned in the affair, have authorized Mosby Shepard to act for them. Perhaps it would be proper to state the present situation of Mrs. Shepard's family, which she urged as a reason for the extraordinary price demanded for Tom.

1801.  
Feb. 28,  
Richmond

Exclusive of four married daughters interested in the sale, it consists of herself, two sons, young unmarried men, and one unmarried daughter. It frequently happens that both her sons are from home, in which case she and her daughter are left by themselves, and the care of the plantation devolves on Tom, who has always faithfully executed the trust confided to him, and increased her confidence in the personal safety of herself and daughter in the absence of her sons. These circumstances and his assiduity in promoting her interests generally place him in her estimation greatly above the usual value of negroes equally personable, and induce her to think that five hundred dollars, which she demands for him, will be far short of a compensation equal to the inconvenience she will suffer in parting with him, which she would not consent to do but in consideration of his emancipation for the essential service he has rendered the community.

I have seen and examined him. He appears to be about thirty-three or four years of age, is very intelligent, and has a countenance expressive of good health, a good disposition and firm integrity, and were I about to purchase, I should think myself justified in giving as much for him as for any negro I have ever seen who had not obtained some profitable mechanic trade.

I have also seen Philip Shepard, the owner of Pharoah, the other negro who, I learn, was the principal in making the discovery of the late conspiracy. He is immovably decided to take nothing less than five hundred dollars for Pharoah. It is well ascertained that he gave at public sale one hundred and thirty pounds for him, and I understand that his confidence in him is unlimited.

On my way to Mrs. Shepard's I met Pharoah at Watson's Tavern, and enquired of him his age and general occupation. He is about twenty-

1801.  
Feb. 28,  
Richmond

seven years old, is an expert scythes-man, and is employed during the proper season in cutting hay, &c., and in the winter in such business as his Master prescribes him. His appearance and character bespeak every thing which can be desired in a servant.

I have, &c.

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BEN. STODDERT TO JOHN HOPKINS.

March 3,  
Navy  
Department

I have examined and approve the form of a deed which you handed to me, for the conveyance of the property at Gosport to the United States for a Navy Yard, by the State of Virginia. Be pleased therefore to have the title secured to the U. States agreeably to that form.

I am, &c.

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Under date of January 24th, 1801, Benj. Stoddert, Secretary of the Navy, informs John Hopkins that he sends him a draft for \$12,000 to pay for the land at Gosport.

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March 3,  
Alexandria

John Sutton requests the Executive to issue a certificate of citizenship for his son Daniel Isaac Sutton.

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MAJOR ROBT. QUARLES TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 6,  
Arsenal

Your favor of the 17th instant I have received. The various subjects therein committed to my care shall be scrupulously attended to. Presuming that the safe keeping of the public buildings at this place was an object of the greatest magnitude, I have rented the small tract of ground adjoining the arsenal to Serg't Maddox, (knowing him to be a careful and honest man,) for which he is to render a certain proportion of the produce of the cultivated land, and is bound by an instrument to take especial care of the public buildings. He occupies the house in which my family resided, having removed them to my plantation contiguous to this place, reserving a room therein for my office, until the removal of the public property is completed. The remaining tenements at this place I shall endeavor to dispose of as advantageously as possible, of which you shall be duly apprised.

I am, &c.,

Deed from Elizabeth Sheppard, widow of Benj. Sheppard; Austin Morris and Polly his wife, daughter of Benj. and Elizabeth Sheppard; Philip Sheppard, Edmund James and Susanna his wife, daughter of Benj. and Elizabeth Sheppard; Mosby Sheppard, Austin D. Leake and Lucy his wife, daughter of Benj. and Elizabeth Sheppard; John Starke and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Benj. and Elizabeth Sheppard; John Sheppard and Philip Sheppard as guardian of Nancy Sheppard, conveying to the Governor a negro man slave named Tom. Consideration \$500. 1801. March 15

Deed from Philip Sheppard conveying to the Governor a negro man slave named Pharoah. Consideration \$500. March 15

George W. Lee, deputy clerk of Essex county, certifies that the county court recommends Washington V. Dunn for notary public at Tappahannock. March 17

William Berkeley, treasurer, makes the following statement:

Amount appropriated for arms,	-	-	-	-	-	\$199,000 00	March 21
Paid to the 20th inst.,	-	-	-	-	-	55,155 10	
Balance,	-	-	-	-	-	\$143,844 90	
Balance in Treasury,	-	-	-	-	-	33,389 00	

States that nothing but an economical appropriation of the balance would keep up the credit of the State, as receipts prior to Sept. 20th were not to be depended on.

JOHN SUTTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

In regard to a certificate of citizenship for his son, Daniel Isaac Sutton. The writer was admitted a citizen of Virginia by act dated 1780. His three sons came to Virginia in 1783—viz., John D. Sutton, who has resided since constantly in Virginia, except a few months' voyage to England to select a cargo of goods; James A. has resided in Virginia except a year at Ableville, in France, and a year at the Merchant's Warehouse, London; and Daniel I., who went to England with his father in 1790, and was from there sent to India, after which he returned to Virginia. March 22, Alexandria

Certificate of John Strode that he has examined and passed 100 stand of arms manufactured for the State by George Wheeler. March 22

1801.  
March 23      Bond of James Bootright as contractor to furnish provisions to the guard established in Richmond.

March 28      Balance in treasury, \$32,800.

SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 7,  
Richmond      Stating that the number of arms on hand at the passing of the law afforded an apportionment of 7,214 stands, of which 3,655 had been stamped and 1,450 delivered.

*January 23d, 1801.*

Received by John Atkinson a reprieve from the Governor of Virginia for the Slaves confined in Caroline Jail untill the fourth Friday in March next.

WILL JONES,  
D'y Sh'f for Hay Battaile.

ANDERSON McWILLIAMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 9,  
Fredericks-  
burg      Stating that Mr. James Allen, the health officer of the town, is so ill that he can live but a few days longer, and requesting to be appointed in his place.

April 13,  
Wheeler's  
Works,  
Culpeper  
County      Statement that the hands employed in the gun-works consisted of six gun-stockers, one gun-breecher, one polisher, one mounting forger, two filers, one bayonet-maker. The locks and barrels were made by special contract.

April 18      Balance in Treasury, \$17,459 89.

April 18	The State of Virginia,		
	To Rob. McClanahan,		Dr.
	To expenses for self and one Horseman to and from the State of		
	Kentucky, - - - - -	\$219	12
	Hire of one Horse from Bourbon to Staunton, - - - - -	10	00
	To my services for 59 days at \$2, - - - - -	118	00
	To one Horseman on service for 59 days, - - - - -	59	00
		\$406	12
	Cr. by Cash, - - - - -	150	00
	P'd Bal. Ap'l 18, 1801, - - - - -	\$256	00



John Gray, Gent., being elected delegate to the next General Assembly and declining to accept the office of Sheriff, Wm. Graham, James Handley, and Wm. Vawter are recommended. Certified by John Hutchinson, Clerk.

1801.  
April 23,  
Monroe Co.

CREED TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Accepting appointment as Commissioner on the part of Virginia to adjust all differences concerning the boundary line between Virginia and Tennessee. His colleagues are General Martin and Andrew Moore.

April 25,  
Needham

The grand jury of the Williamsburg District Court indict James Henderson, Mayor of Williamsburg, for being absent from that city on the 22d instant, the day appointed for election of members of General Assembly and Congress, and thereby preventing the people from exercising the right of suffrage.

April

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

In response to his inquiry as to the best mode of procuring tools for the manufacture of arms, states that Mr. Hodgson, who is concerned in extensive manufactures of ironmongery in Birmingham, England, was in the city, and recommends that he be employed to import the tools needed. Incloses the following list of those required:

April 26,  
Richmond

- 8 sets of tools, &c., proper for welding, floating, &c., musket barrels.
- 8 do. of do. for forging the parts of musket locks, bayonets, and swords.
- 4 do. of do. for forging iron mounting for muskets, steel ram-rods, &c.
- 2 do. of do. for forging all the small parts.
- 2 do. of do. for fitting and tempering springs, &c., for muskets.
- 4 do. of do. for breeching, looping, brazing on the sights, &c.
- 32 do. of do. for filing, fitting, &c., parts of musket locks.
- 20 do. of do. for stocking of muskets.
- 20 do. of do. for finishing muskets.
- 2 do. of do. for hilding and mounting swords.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeably to your request that I should report to you my opinion of the necessary size, or rather weight, of the bells which are contemplated for the use of the Capitol, Manufactory of Arms and Penitentiary, I

May 2

1801. have to report as my opinion, that the size of the bell for the Capitol  
May 2 should be at least as large as the old one which was lately broken; the weight of which without the clappers is 350 lbs.

It might I think be well to have the new one of 400 lbs. weight. As the bell contemplated for the Manufactory of Arms should be of a size sufficiently large to be distinctly heard at the most remote parts of the city, in order to collect the Artificers who may be absent, and as it is necessary that the sound should be distinguishable from that of the bells of the Capitol and the Penitentiary, I conceive the weight of this bell should be about 500 lbs.

It not being necessary that the bell for the Penitentiary should be of a size more than sufficient to be heard through the building, I think that a bell of about 50 wt. would be sufficiently large for the purposes of that building.

I have conferred with Mr. Taylor, the brass founder here, respecting the terms on which he would undertake to make the above bells. His price if he makes but one bell, is 3s. 6d. p'r lb., which price I think very high. As Mr. Hodgson has not yet sailed from Norfolk, I think it would be well that he should be written to on this subject to know on what terms he would import them.

I am, &c.

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WILLIAM BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 2 Is of opinion that not more than \$15,000 can be counted on in the current quarter. Is concerned to report so trifling a balance as \$7,035 00. In addition, the directors of the Dismal Swamp Canal have made a call of \$25 on each share before the 28th inst.

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May 9 Balance in Treasury, \$4,072 05.

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PICKETT, POLLARD & JOHNSTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 16, In behalf of Mr. Swan, offers to accept for the arms the terms offered  
Richmond by the Executive on the 23d of February. Hear that Swan has sold his interest in the contract to General Colloet.

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May 16 Balance in Treasury, \$2,613 31.

COL. THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Announcing the arrival of the brig Ann, of Norfolk, Capt. Henry Brown, from St. Sebastian, Spain, and asking directions in regard to quarantine. 1801.  
May 16,  
Norfolk

JOHN SHEE TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Informing him that Robert McCormick, the contractor for arms, had failed, and was imprisoned for debt. He (Shee) does not think he will be able to execute the contract. May 20,  
Philadel-  
phia

DR. J. C. CORNWELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Has been informed by Dr. Hansford of Norfolk, that there will soon be a vacancy in the position of Health Officer at that port and applies for the appointment. May 22,  
Washington  
D. C.

Henry Hiot applies to the Governor for appointment as Notary Public. May 22,  
Norfolk

Certificates of citizens of Fredericksburg that Benjamin Parke is well qualified for the office of Notary Public. Signed by David C. Ker, John Mercer, John Mortimer, P. Gordon, John Yates, John Minor and others. May 24

Application of Geo. W. B. Spooner for appointment as Notary Public. May 25,  
Fredericks-  
burg

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

States that the present is a convenient time for him to go north on his trip in connection with the Armory. Mr. McKim an experienced mechanic could be engaged to supervise the work during his absence. Artificers who are single can be very comfortably arranged in the barracks on the upper stories of the Armory; but the married men he may engage will probably wish houses for their families. Suggests that small houses be built for each family. May 30

*Tobacco Received at the Treasury in Discharge of Certain Taxes, viz:*

1801. June 3		Hhds.	Pounds.	Amount.
	On hand at last settlement, to the 30th of			
	September, 1800, - - - - -	55	56,815	\$2,435 06
	Ditto, Transfer, - - - - -	—	2,491	107 94
	Received from that period to 2nd of June,			
	1801, - - - - -	8	9,016	444 55
	Rec'd May 23, 1799, of Thos. Lee, on acc't			
	of rents payable in Tobacco, - - -	30	32,162	782 60
		93	100,484	\$3,770 15

NOTE.—This is extended at the precise sum which was received therefor.

*Sales of Tobacco Per Contra, under the Direction of the Executive.*

1801, June 2nd—	Hhds.	Pounds.	Amount.
Sold to Pickett, Pollard & Johnson, -	4	4,168	\$179 22½
Ditto, - - - - -	3	3,770	160 22½
Thomas Tinsley, - - - - -	5	5,246	210 89
Marcus Elcan, - - - - -	10	10,378	342 47
Thomas Tinsley, - - - - -	9	9,562	322 24
Marcus Elcan, - - - - -	10	10,781	296 47½
Ditto, Transfer, - - - - -	3	2,491	63 04½
Ditto, - - - - -	10	11,852	320 72
Asher Marx, - - - - -	9	10,074	277 04
Ditto, - - - - -	10	10,565	264 12
Pickett, Pollard & Johnson, - - -	10	10,877	271 92½
Marcus Elcan, - - - - -	10	10,720	246 56
	93	100,484	\$2,954 22
Loss sustained on the sales of the above Tobacco, - - -			815 93
			\$3,770 15

Errors excepted.

June 3rd, 1801.

WM. BERKELEY.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 12 As the building of the public Manufactory of Arms commenced before you became the Governor of the State, and as you intended to furnish me with instructions relative to engaging with the artists who are to be employed in making of arms, &c., therein, I deem it proper to give you the following information in order to afford you an idea of the extent of the works and the number of workmen to be employed in the several

branches thereof, and also the manner in which I propose to conduct it (if it meets the approbation of the Executive) after its completion. I have, therefore, to inform you that in the month of February, 1798, I was called upon by the honorable Executive to furnish them "with a plan for a complete manufactory of arms to be erected in the vicinity of Richmond, capable of the annual manufacture of four thousand stands," and in order to enable me to form an accurate judgment of such establishments, that I should take a view of the different works of a similar kind in the Northern and Eastern States. I accordingly visited all the manufactories of arms of any magnitude in those States. And from the information I obtained at the several works which I viewed (but particularly those at Springfield in the State of Massachusetts, which were the most considerable of any in the United States) of the proper division of labor in the different branches, so proportioned that each branch might keep pace with the other branches, and also of the manner in which the work in each several branch ought to be executed, I drew a plan for the works agreeably to the best of my judgment, and of an extent suited to the desire of the Executive, which plan was presented to and adopted by them.

1801.  
June 12

In forming this plan, I endeavored to accommodate every advantage of the site to the convenience of the establishment, both as to water-works and houses, and finding that the building of habitations for the artificers separate from the manufactory would be more expensive and not so eligible, I designed their barracks in the upper apartments of the manufactory, which habitations will be commodious for those artificers who are unmarried; yet those who have families will probably prefer being accommodated in the manner I suggested to you in my last communication.

The works are constructed so as to be capable of making at least sixteen stand of arms per day, and there being in a year three hundred and twelve days for labor, would make the number amount to four thousand nine hundred and ninety-two stands per annum, which would be nine hundred and ninety-two stands more than were required by the Executive; but as reasonable allowance should be made for the awkwardness of inexperienced workmen at the commencement of the business, as also for accidents, sickness, holidays, &c., I constructed the works capable of making four thousand stand of arms per annum, taking into view such extraordinary occurrences; and there being at such works many musket barrels refused on account of flaws and other defects, the sound parts of which would make good pistol barrels, and supposing that our Legislature would be inclined to arm our Cavalry, as well as Infantry; Artillerists, &c., I constructed the works (with very little additional expense) capable of making six pistols and seven swords per day in addition to the sixteen stand of arms, which will, besides arming the cavalry, afford

1801.  
June 12

swords for the officers of the Infantry and Artillery. The parts of the manufactory which are designed for the making of ordnance will be capable of making all that may be required for the field and fortifications.

In order to make the above number of small arms, the work daily to be done in the various branches is intended to be executed in the following order—viz:

- 2 Hammer men in two Trip-hammer forges to draw 16 skelps for musket barrels and the other Iron which will require the forge hammer for 16 stand of arms.
- 8 Men to weld and float 16 musket and six pistol barrels.
- 8 Do. to bore and hand-spindle 16 muskets, six pistol barrels, and 16 Bayonet sockets.
- 8 Do. to forge all the parts for 16 musket Locks, 16 Bayonets, 7 swords, and 6 pistol Locks.
- 4 Do. to forge mounting for 16 muskets and six pistols, 16 Ram-rods for muskets and 6 for pistols.
- 2 Do. to forge all the small parts—viz., screws for Locks, &c.; also springs and loops.
- 2 Do. to fit and temper the springs for 16 muskets and six pistols.
- 4 Do. to breech loop and braze the sights of 16 muskets and six pistols.
- 6 Do. grind 16 musket and 6 pistol barrels, 16 Bayonets, 16 Ram-rods for muskets, 6 for pistols, and 7 swords.
- 4 Do. grind and file mounting for 16 muskets and 6 pistols.
- 32 Do. Lock makers to make 16 Locks for muskets and 6 for pistols.
- 8 Do. to case-harden and polish 16 musket Locks, 6 pistol Locks, 16 sets of mounting for muskets, 6 sets for pistols, 16 Bayonets, and 7 swords.
- 20 Do. Gun-stockers to make 16 musket stocks and 6 pistol stocks.
- 20 Do. Finishers to finish 16 muskets and 6 pistols.
- 2 Do. to hilt and mount 7 swords.
- 1 Do. to make the wooden parts of Cartridge Boxes for muskets and 3 for pistols.
- 8 Do. to execute the Leather work for 16 cartridge boxes for muskets.
- 3 Do. for pistols, 3 pair of holsters, 4 sword belts and scabbards, 16 Bayonet slings, and 16 Brush wipers and pickers.

And as the melting and refining of Brass requires a furnace on a different construction from such as are required for Iron, and as bomb shells and the various kind of cannon shot must be made for the mortars and other species of ordnance, and as it may be expedient to make Iron as well as Brass cannon, I have planned the foundry of these works with two furnaces so that brass and Iron Ordnance may be made therein at the same time, which will require 1 moulder, 4 founders, 1 borer, 2 Turners and drillers of touch holes, 4 makers of Gun carriages: so that

when the works are in full operation in all the various branches above enumerated, they will require one hundred and fifty-one workmen, which number of artists may, after gaining experience, manufacture a greater number of arms than I have here stated, and the works are so constructed as easily to admit of extension should it hereafter be found necessary.

1801.  
June 12

The establishment of a manufactory in the bosom of our State capable of furnishing an abundant supply of arms for its defence without reliance on the precarious mode of obtaining them by importation from Foreign States upon whom we have been wholly dependent for our means of defence, does honor to the wisdom and enterprize of our Legislature, and greatly tends to the support of that independence so sacred to all true Americans, for without arms for our defence, the Rights of the nation, however enlightened its councils, or numerous and brave its citizens, are in a perilous condition, and may be wrested from us by a combination of those foreign powers who are prepared for war, and who without regard to justice, but governed by Interest and ambition, may not only injure and insult us with impunity, but make us again feel the scourge of tyranny. By such reflections, I am led to think that our being prepared for war, is the best guarantee or security for our liberty and happiness. With these impressions, I, with pleasure, embarked in the business assigned me by the Executive, not without regretting that altho' nature has furnished the United States with the most profuse abundance of materials proper for the fabrication of every species of arms, yet none of our sister States have fallen upon the plan or followed the example of Virginia in establishing within themselves means of protection. As our means of defence are increased in the same proportion will the jealousy of our enemies be excited—to repel the evil effects of which it is necessary that we should be prepared, for their plans may be formed and incendiaries be employed for the secret destruction of our warlike preparations when least suspected—instances of similar mischiefs have often been practiced with too much success not to be dreaded; it is fresh within my recollection, that within the course of the American Revolution our infant manufactories of arms and powder works were destroyed in a secret manner by negroes who were influenced by emisaries of the British Army with whom they acted.

In order to guard as far as was in my power against an evil so dreadful, in forming the plan for our Manufactory of Arms (as the expense will be inconsiderable in proportion to the object,) I designed to have the water elevated (by means of the machinery necessary for making arms,) from the reservoirs of the works into the two cupolas built for that purpose on the roofs of the two largest houses of the Manufactory, from whence it may be conducted into the roofs of the other houses thereof, so as to secure the works from destruction by fire. I also

1801.  
June 12

designed in the structure of the buildings, a room for a guard intending that the artificers belonging to the works should guard them in the night time, which would be so easy a duty for the great number of men employed in the Manufactory, as scarcely to be felt by them. And in order to qualify them for military service in time of need, and make them proficient in the art of making arms, and to prevent them from quitting the public service at their pleasure, I conceive it will be proper to enlist or engage them for a term of not less than three years. That they from the profits of their labor, shall furnish themselves with uniform dress of blue cloth to be worn by them on parade, that their hours of refreshment be regulated by the tolling of a bell for that purpose, and that they parade by beat of drum each morning and evening at sunrise and sunset, attend the roll call and perform such military evolutions as may qualify them for the duty of soldiers when unemployed by their various occupations in the Manufactory of Arms.

These arrangements appear to me to be necessary for our works, they are however respectfully submitted to your consideration, with a request that you will make such alterations as to you may seem expedient. As system is indispensibly necessary to produce regularity and order in the routine of business in which so great a number of workmen are to be variously employed, and having formed the plan and superintended the erection of the works hitherto, and the Executive having confided to me its direction when completed, it now becomes not only my duty, but is my most ardent inclination by all the means in my power, to conduct this establishment so as to answer the public expectations and the great purpose for which it was instituted.

I am, &c.

P. S.—On receipt of your letter of the 1st inst. I inquired of Mr. William McKim the terms on which he would be willing to undertake the temporary superintendence of the two buildings, the Manufactory of Arms and Penitentiary House during my absence; his reply I enclose. He appears to understand the plan of the Manufactory of Arms very well, so far as it relates to the houses, and is, I believe, a tolerable good judge of wood work and of brick work. And the outlines of most of the brick work of the Penitentiary being begun, I cannot suppose he can meet with any difficulty at that building.

I think the whole of his time should be devoted to those buildings until my return, in order to see the work executed conformably to the plans, and to prevent the introduction of bad materials into any part of the work.

The reply of Mr. John Hodgson to my letter, written to him some time ago on the subject of furnishing bells for the Capitol, Manufactory of Arms, and Penitentiary House, I have received since the last Board of Council, which reply I also enclose.

J. C.



Bond from Pickett, Pollard & Johnston in sum of £16,800 to indemnify the State of Virginia against the claim of all persons in regard to arms purchased by the State from them as agents for James Swan. Swan had sold his claims to General Collot, of France.

1801.  
July 3

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RO. QUARLES TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Inclosing contracts with John Maddox, Thos. Gray, Pollard Gosney, and Jno. Griffin for rent of public land and houses at Point of Fork.

July 4,  
Fluvanna

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Memorandum of Clothing issued to the Public Guard. List containing the names of fifty-nine non-commissioned officers and privates.

July 10

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Proposition of Jacob Leathers, of York, Pennsylvania, to furnish the State of Virginia with 4,000 stand of arms for £5.0.6 (Pennsylvania money) per stand.

July 11,  
Richmond

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Proposition of Peter Brang, Abraham Henry, and Henry Dehuff, of Lancaster, Pa., to furnish the State of Virginia 7,075 stand of arms at \$11 per stand, delivered in Lancaster, to be completed in three years; and also 1,000 pair of pistols at \$15 per pair.

July 13

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DANIEL DAVIS TO JOHN CLARKE.

Applying for position as a gunsmith at the Armory.

July 17,  
Albemarle

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JOHN SHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Has seen Captain Clarke and found him a man of business. Had given him all the aid he could. Thinks Clarke will be enabled to engage Haslett, formerly with McCormick, for the Richmond Armory, who can influence 15 or 20 good workmen.

July 19,  
Philadelphia

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GEORGE WILLIAMSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Applying for the position of chief gunsmith of the Armory. Is a native of Virginia and worked in a manufactory of small arms all during the last war.

July 31

## C. M. THURSTON, ESCHEATOR OF FREDERICK, TO THE GOVERNOR.

1801.  
August 4,  
Winchester      Informing him that he has employed Mr. Page to assist the Attorney-General in the suit against Martin's Executors.

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August 5,  
Culpeper      Proposal from George Wheeler to manufacture three thousand stand of arms for the State at \$13 per stand.

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## JOHN SHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 9,  
Philadel-  
phia      Mr. Haslett will furnish 600 muskets on the same terms as Mr. Miles. He believes Mr. Miles is to complete the work undertaken by McCormick. Will obtain from both security for the performance of their contracts.

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August 10      Northumberland county court recommends Thomas Hurst and Anthony Sydnor for inspectors at Indian and Dymers' warehouses; James Harcum, George Barret, George Hesterson, and George Blackwell, at Wiccomoco. and Martin Haynie, Robert Crowther, Samuel Dowing and Willoughby N. Berryman at Coan. Certified by Fleming Bates, Clerk.

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August 10,  
Culpeper      Proposals from George Wheeler to make 4000 muskets for the State at \$11 50 a piece.

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## JOHN SHEE TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

August 13,  
Philadel-  
phia      Desiring to know whether Mr. Miles is to make 600 pistols or 600 pair. "Both Mr. Miles and Mr. Haslett are busily at work for us; your good pay gives life to the hammer and anvil."

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August 29      Balance in Treasury, \$4,999 30.

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Sept. 14      Jacob Leathers informs the Governor that he will manufacture muskets at the same price as others who have offered.

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Sept. 14      Papers relating to barracks, with enclosures.

John Fox offers to sell several houses and lots "on the hill" for  
barracks. 1801.  
Sept. 14

James Boatwright offers to furnish the State troops at Richmond with  
good rations at 16 cents each, and spirits at a dollar a gallon. Sept. 14

WM. MORRIS, SHERIFF, TO THE GOVERNOR.

In regard to the murder of Bennet Rodgers, by slaves he was carrying  
down the Ohio river. Sept. 19,  
Kanawha  
County

THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Giving information that within the past few days several persons  
(mostly strangers) had been taken with the fever and several had died.  
The inhabitants are as healthy as for many years past. Sept. 25,  
Norfolk

THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Since writing last, many persons have died of the fever, mostly foreign-  
ers. The emigrants from Ireland suffer most, as they have no friends,  
and die for lack of good nursing. The inhabitants of the town are  
healthy, and he has heard of none of the market people from the country  
taking the disease. Sept. 30,  
Norfolk

Certificate of John Timberlake, Clerk, that Duncan McLauchlin, who  
was appointed Sheriff, had failed to give bond. Oct. 2,  
Fluvanna  
County

J. BYARS, JR., TO JOHN CLARKE.

Hopes he will not be disappointed in the artificers from Springfield.  
Much pains are taken to discourage them. Oct. 2,  
Springfield

BENJAMIN PARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Stating that in consequence of the information that a malignant fever,  
supposed to be yellow fever, prevailed in Norfolk, he had put the quar-  
antine in force with respect to vessels from that place. Oct. 5,  
Fredericks-  
burg

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WM. SAVAGE, AGENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF U. S. SEAMEN, TO  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

1801.        Stating that a number of barrels of flour branded "Hanover Town,"  
Oct. 9,       which the English army contractors had purchased from Virginia, were  
Kingston,    light in weight.  
Jamaica

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THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 9,       The sickness has greatly abated, and but few have been attacked  
Norfolk      except foreigners, particularly the British, who drink hard and dissipate.  
Has not heard of a single instance of a Frenchman being attacked, their  
temperance keeping them in health.

---

JOHN GORDON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 10,      Declining to serve as Sheriff for another year. His successor possesses  
Northum-     pure Republican principles, he therefore resigns to him with pleasure.  
berland

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CREED TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 10       The inconvenient distance at which General Martin, Mr. Moore and he  
live, has prevented a joint communication to the Governor of Tennessee;  
but General Martin wrote individually to the Governor, whose reply he  
had inclosed to him (Taylor). The Governor states that when the legis-  
lature of Tennessee meets, he will lay before it the proceedings of the  
Virginia Assembly.

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Oct. 12       Recommendation of Council, that Messrs. Clarke and Quarrier be  
appointed to inspect the arms manufactured by Mr. Wheeler.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 13       Recites the various proposals made to the State for the manufacture of  
arms, and says that on his northern tour he visited each of the persons  
named. Recommends that for muskets the proposals of Graeff, Brong,  
Henry and Dehuff of Lancaster, Pa., be accepted, and that the model of  
a sword be sent to Philadelphia, for terms to be made there. In and  
about Philadelphia and in several parts of the New England States, he  
had engaged a number of gun manufacturers to work in the Virginia  
Manufactory of Arms.

Certificate of John Strode, that he, Captain Edward Pendleton, and Thomas Patton, a noted gunsmith, had inspected and proved 313 gun barrels at Wheeler's works. 1801.  
Oct. 14,  
Stevensburg  
Culpeper

Alex. Quarrier and John Clarke report to the Governor that they had inspected 250 muskets, bayonets, &c., lately sent from Wheeler's works, and think that in general, the work is roughly executed, especially in the locks; but that they are better than any Wheeler had made before. They are considerably inferior to the guns sent from Philadelphia. Oct. 16,  
Richmond

JOSEPH WILLIAMSON TO JOHN CLARKE.

In regard to employment of workmen there. Scoundrels have tried to prevent Clarke from obtaining men, but his friends will do all in their power for him. Oct. 20,  
Springfield

General John Guerrant, Jr., certifies to the Governor that he has inspected 1,093 muskets manufactured for the state by Major John Tinsley, at 96c. each, and that they are well executed. Oct. 21,  
Goochland

Alexander Quarrier certifies to the Governor that he has tested ten casks (weighing 798lbs.) of powder sold the State by Tristram Patton and finds it very good. Oct. 21

Bill of Tristram Patton against the Commonwealth of Virginia for £109.14.6, the price of 798 lbs. of powder sold the State.

THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

No meeting of the Dismal Swamp Company has been held on account of absence of members. The excessive high price of labor and provisions has much retarded the work, but hopes the canal will be through in a short time, though more money will be needed. Oct. 28,  
Norfolk

Fines assessed at a court of inquiry held for the first and second battalions of the 22d Regiment of Virginia Militia, in Mecklenburg county. A list containing 157 names. Oct. 30

Application of Archibald Barnes for appointment as Notary Public. Oct. 30,  
Norfolk

## THOS. NEWTON, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

1801.  
Nov. 8,  
Norfolk

Recommending Alexander Jordan for the commission of Notary Public for Norfolk District, and resigning the same in consequence of having been elected to Congress.

## JAMES KEITH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 13,  
Alexandria

Some days ago Colo. Deneale delivered me a letter from your Excellency, addressed to the President and Directors of the Potomack Company, requiring of them an account of the progress made by the Company towards rendering that river navigable. I made the several members of the Board acquainted with your requisition, and different days were appointed for holding a Board and paying the respect due to your commands, by laying before you the present state of that undertaking. From unforeseen events a Board has not yet been formed. This morning Colo. Deneale shewed me a letter he had lately received from Mr. Coleman, in which he mentions it as your desire if a Board of Directors has not or could not be conveniently formed, that the information you wanted should be transmitted you by the President of the Board.

In obedience to this communication, I take upon me to do that which would with more propriety have come from a full meeting of the Board; and it is with pleasure I inform your Excellency, that the passage at the Great Falls will be completed by the month of February at the farthest, probably a month sooner. At that place there is a fall of seventy-six feet, which is descended by five locks: to form the lowest of these, a solid rock has been cut through forty odd feet deep, and for the next, thirty odd feet. The excavation is finished: nothing now remains, but fixing the gates, two of them are done, the others going forward. The timbers of them are framed, the hanging and planking only remaining to be done, when those gates are finished the river will by exertions of the Company, be rendered navigable at certain seasons of the year from Tide Water to George's Creek, thirty miles above Fort Cumberland, and more than two hundred above the Tide. The impediments have been the Great, the Seneca and Shenandoah Falls, each of which presented very formidable impediments. At the two first, locks have been formed; at the other two, lengthy canals to apportion the Fall. After passing the last, there is a continued succession of smaller falls seldom more than 8 or 10 miles apart, frequently much nearer, making in the whole from Tide Water, upwards of eleven hundred feet. The commencement and duration of the navigation will depend much upon the seasons: in common years it may be calculated to commence some time in November and continue to some time in June. It is thought that further improvements may be made so that the navigation may commence earlier in the fall and continue longer in the summer. If it shall be judged practicable, I have no doubt but the Company will endeavor to affect it.

*Distribution of Arms.*

1801.  
Nov. 13

No. of Regiment	Town or County.	No. Shipped	To Whom Sent.
22	Prince Edward.....	70	Col. Sam'l Venable.
23	Charlotte.....	75	Col. Gideon Spencer.
23	Chesterfield.....	6	
23	Durham.....	122	Sent Capt. J. McKee, Petersburg.
22	Prince George.....	123	
23	Buckingham.....	90	Dan'l Guerrant, New Canton.
21	Albemarle.....	61	Col. W. C. Nicholas.
15	Bedford.....	60	
21	Do.....	61	Mr. Wm. Norvell, Lynchburg.
21	Chesterfield.....	100	Col. M. Cheatham.
22	Durham.....	47	
22	Do.....	47	
106	Southampton.....	106	Shipped on board the Schooner
50	Greenville.....	39	Polly, Capt. Cobbe, care of Cap-
56	Brunswick.....	40	tain John McKee, of Petersburg.
15	Sussex.....	67	
22	Prince George.....	10	
	Norfolk Borough.....	420	Shipped on board Sloop Polly, Cap-
	Norfolk County.....	140	tain Daur, to Col. Newton.
68	Elizabeth City.....	15	Miles King.
"	Hampton.....	40	
"	Warwick.....	11	
"	York County.....	25	
"	James City.....	20	Robert Shicks, Esq., of York Co.
"	Gloucester.....	47	
"	Matthews.....	55	
"	York Town.....	40	
17	Cumberland.....	67	Francis Deane, Cartersville.
19	City of Richmond.....	452	Different Captains.
	Lynchburg.....	42	Wm. Norvell, Lynchburg.
31	Frederick.....	118	Col. John Smith.
13	Shenandoah.....	72	Col. Wm. A. Boothe.
3	Orange.....	86	Col. Belkfield Cave.
1	Amelia.....	57	
49	Nottoway.....	53	Capt. John McKee, Petersburg.
9	King and Queen.....	39	Col. John Haskins.
87	King William.....	39	Col. C. Tompkins.
52	New Kent and Charles City...	36	Major John Bradley.
71	Surry.....	30	Col. Archibald Coeke.
8	Rockbridge.....	101	Mr. John Watson, Milton.
32	Augusta.....	109	
48	Botetourt.....	110	Wm. Norvell, Lynchburg.
51	Frederick.....	103	Col. Howson Seaton.
34	Culpeper.....	75	Col. John S. Slaughter.
16	Spottsylvania.....	77	
"	Fredericksburg.....	140	Mr. Fontaine Maury, Fredericks-
45	Stafford.....	72	burg.
"	Falmouth.....	37	
5	Culpeper.....	65	Col. David Jamieson.
46	Pendleton.....	53	Col. Peter Hull.
14	Hardy.....	64	Col. Vincent Williams.
58	Rockingham.....	88	
	Ditto, second apportionment..	23	Col. Benjamin Harrison.
75	Montgomery.....	52	
	Second apportionment..	16	Col. John Ingles.
86	Montgomery.....	52	
	Second apportionment..	14	Col. George Pearis.
79	Greenbrier.....	35	
	Second apportionment..	10	Mr. John Watson, Milton.

1801.  
Nov. 13*Distribution of Arms—Continued.*

No. of Regiment.	Town or County.	No. Stands.	To Whom Sent.
88	Albemarle, second apportionment.....	17	Mr. John Watson, Milton.
60	Halifax .....	76	Col. John Douglas.
	Second apportionment.....	20	
86	Halifax .....	79	Col. Wm. McDaniel.
	Second apportionment.....	21	
110	Franklin.....	50	Col. Samuel Hairston.
	Second apportionment.....	14	
43	Franklin.....	50	Col. John Early.
	Second apportionment.....	14	
18	Patrick.....	56	Col. George Green.
	Second apportionment.....	15	
64	Henry.....	44	Col. George Hairston.
	Second apportionment.....	12	
102	Powhatan, second apportionment .....	12	Col. Littleberry Mosby.
38	Goochland, second apportionment .....	13	Col. Henry J. Miller.
97	Shenandoah .....	60	Col. Wm. Allen.
	Second apportionment.....	16	
13	Shenandoah, second apportionment .....	19	Col. Wm. A. Boothe.
5	Culpeper, second apportionment .....	18	Col. David Jamieson.
36	Culpeper, second apportionment .....	20	Col. John S. Slaughter.
35	Wythe.....	48	
	Second apportionment.....	13	Col. Robert Sayers.
100	Wythe.....	44	
	Second apportionment.....	12	Col. Stephen Saunders.
42	Pittsylvania .....	86	
	Second apportionment.....	23	Col. Clement Daniel.
107	Pittsylvania.....	65	
	Second apportionment.....	18	Col. Wm. Clarke.
17	Cumberland, second apportionment.....	18	
24	Buckingham, second apportionment.....	26	Col. Joel Watkins.
31	Frederick, second apportionment.....	31	Col. John Smith.
51	Frederick, second apportionment.....	28	
23	Chesterfield, second apportionment.....	27	
	Total.....	5,424	Stands to 13th of November, 1801.

## WM. DABNEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 13, Asking compensation for clerical services in connection with the distribution of arms and correspondence with militia officers.  
Richmond

## THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 17, Inclosed we transmit your Excellency a report intended to be made to the General meeting which was to have been held on Saturday, the 15th  
Norfolk



inst. but did not take place; in addition to which, we beg leave to inform your Excellency, that Mr. Benj'n Jones, an undertaker on the S. side of the Canal, and one of the largest individual proprietors, informs us that he shall complete in four weeks' time a temporary lock which will open a navigation from the Virginia line to the waters of Pasquetank, also that we have a well grounded hope of seeing the Canal navigable throughout for flatts 60 feet long and five wide, carrying 10,000 three feet shingles in the course of the ensuing year.

1801.  
Nov. 17,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

To the General Meeting of the Dismal Swamp Canal Co., the President and Directors respectfully report that since the last general meeting, a large lock has been constructed at the South end of the Canal and communication opened between it and the waters of Pasquetank river, to admit of boats five feet wide and drawing two feet water. That a smaller temporary lock has been placed at some distance from the Great lock, to raise the water for some miles back into the Swamp, where the descent of the ground is considerable. That the contract with Dr. Sawyer has been nearly fulfilled, and that the Canal has been cut from the end of Sawyer's contract as far north as the line of Virginia, eleven feet wide and two feet deep. They are concerned further to report that less progress has been made in Mr. Capron's contract since the last general meeting, than think might have been reasonably expected, and that they have in consequence thereof, come to a determination to remove him from his present situation at the end of this year, and to take such other measures with him as the interest of the Company may require.

On an examination of the Treasurer's Accounts on the 12th inst. they found in his hands a balance of only \$376 61 due to the Company, and there appears to be still due from the subscribers about six thousand dollars, which sum they are of opinion will be sufficient to complete the communication between the Northern and Southern parts of the Canal in the manner contracted for with Jones & Co.

An account of tolls received at the North end of the Canal to the 24th of May last, has been rendered by Mr. Capron by which it appears that \$408 15 had been then collected.

Of the tolls unpaid, no account was rendered, but it is supposed they must have been considerable and can be collected.

ROBT. ADAMS, PR.

Nov. 14th, 1801.

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THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

The inclosed report intended to have been made to the General Meeting, which could not be effected for want of members, will shew your Excellency the state of the Company's funds and the progress of the

Nov. 17,  
Norfolk

1801.  
Nov. 17,  
Norfolk

Canal. The excessive high prices of labour and provisions, has retarded this work (with uncommon wet seasons). Next year I have hopes that the race will be made through the swamp for vessels carrying about 15 Hhds of Tobacco in weight. This will shew that the work can be fully effected, and does no injury to the opening the Canal the full width, while it will be bringing in Toll to assist in completing it. Boats like those used in the James River Canal, now are employed on each end of the Canal, and only the middle is now to be cut which in one good summer may be completed.

I am, &c.

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GEO. PROSSER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 26,  
Richmond

Soliciting appointment as Clerk at the Public Manufactory of Arms.

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W. FOUSHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 26      On my return from the Country yesterday found your note of the day before.

The inclosed report embraces I hope all the material information you wished for: if however a more minute detail will be more satisfactory, I will with pleasure furnish it as far as I am able.

Yours, &c.

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W. FOUSHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 26,  
Richmond

In conformity with your request, wishing to know how far the improvement of the navigation of James River has been carried into effect under the laws passed on that subject, beg to inform you that of this immense work, there remains comparatively speaking, but little to be done for the completion of such an extensive navigation; that the improvement still requisite is principally on the bed of the river, the dams, locks, lower sluices, canal and basin being finished. That from the arch gates above the locks to the head of Goolsby's falls, the bed of the river has during the last season been cleared of the obstructions thought necessary to render the navigation safe and easy.

That for several years preceding the present, a well informed and experienced superintendent, with a suitable number of hands, has been also employed, when the season would permit, in clearing the bed of the river between Lynchburg and Crow's Ferry, particularly through the

mountain, and we are happy in believing the navigation to be nearly complete in that part.

Crow's Ferry is the highest point to which the company is bound by law to extend the improvement, and which is by the course of the river about 220 miles above tidewater, and running into a fertile country. It may without any impropriety, it is thought, be observed that a very moderate expense will make a safe and easy navigation also to the fork at Jackson's river, being about 40 miles further up, and from which place Flour, &c., is now frequently brought down.

Thus the interior navigation may be said to extend about 260 miles, and to be in a very tolerable state for transportation of produce, as nearly all the great obstructions are removed. Finding that a very inconsiderable sum judiciously expended would immediately extend the great benefit of water carriage to several lateral branches of the main river, improvements have therefore been made on the North Fork above the mountain, running up near to Lexington.

The North river, running up towards Charlottesville: on Willis's, up to Caira, about — miles, which lateral navigation affords great facility and saving of expense in bringing down the produce of the country, as well as increasing the Tolls.

It remains, however, to improve the bed of the river from Goolsby's falls up to Lynchburg, and from thence to the mountain. Indeed it may be requisite in favorable seasons, to bestow some additional labour up to Crow's Ferry. All these improvements, however, on the bed of the river, being, as already stated, the principal ones now necessary, are dependent for their execution in a great measure on the seasons, as 'tis impossible to work advantageously unless the water is very low, and that generally can be calculated on for but a short period in each summer, which renders it impossible to say with any degree of certainty when this part of the work can be fully completed; but can assure you that it will by no means be lost sight of, and that a superintendent, with a sufficient number of laborers, will be kept in the interim at other employment, but always in readiness to embrace the proper opportunities as they may present, until the work is completed.

This circumstance, which must exist for some time, together with the necessary constant establishment to support progress in and manage a work of such magnitude, will require a considerable annual expenditure.

For your further information, it may not be amiss to say that the capital of this company, of which the public had a moiety, consists of 700 shares, amounting to £42,000, which being found inadequate to the work, the tolls and rent for water which have arisen, have been applied to carry it on, and which is now so far advanced toward completion as to lessen the expenditure, and has thereby enabled the company to comply with all their engagements, to repay with interest all the money borrowed,

1801.  
Nov. 26,  
Richmond

1801.  
Nov. 26,  
Richmond

as well as to keep up the necessary establishment for collecting the tolls, managing the works, going on with the improvements yet requisite, and at the end of this year to leave a dividend on the original stock of £42,000 of not less than three per cent. In the next year the dividends will most probably be increased to double that amount, so that it is thought six per cent. on the original advance may be pretty certainly calculated on hereafter, as well as a reasonable annual future increase, and yet keep up the necessary establishment.

This favorable opportunity cannot be omitted, of observing the pleasing prospect before us, of the benefits now resulting to the community at large by an inland navigation on the main river of about 260 miles, through the heart of the State, independent of a similar advantage on each side of this river by improvement of its lateral branches, stretching out their arms to some distance, thereby greatly enhancing the value of lands throughout a large extent, as well as some remuneration to the individuals who have advanced and hazarded their money on an arduous experiment for the public good.

With much respect on behalf of the Directors,

I am, &c.

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JOSEPH JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 27,  
Petersburg

Your circular letter with one from Mr. Samuel Coleman I received yesterday, requesting that I would give information of what progress has been made in carrying the Law into effect for Improving the navigation of Appomattox River.

The Act which was renewed and amended last session for the improving the navigation of Appomattox river from Broadway to Pocahontas bridge, has not been acted on: the reason is the Trustees appointed by law, think that the clause in the aforesaid act, which gives the Legislature in future a control over the rates of tolls established, to be rather partial, as there is no such clause in any of the Acts for improving the navigation of any other Rivers.

The Trustees intend a meeting shortly, and to represent to the Assembly as it will be a hazardous undertaking, that that clause should be repealed and put them on the same footing of the others. Capt. John McRae, thinking the letter he received was intended for the upper improvement of the Appomattox River, sent the letter to Major Joseph Eggleston who is the President, and I do suppose he will write you what progress they have made in the Canal, but least he should not, I was to see the Canal a few days ago, and they have got it completed nearly three quarters of a mile below Mr. Atkinson's mill, where the boats can come

down and deliver their loads, which is about four miles from where they intend the Basin to be in the Corporation of Petersburg.

1801.  
Nov. 27,  
Petersburg

I am, &c.

Henry Harper proposing to furnish black walnut musket stocks for 15 pence per stock. Nov. 27

Application of Samuel McCraw for appointment as notary public. Dec. 8, Richmond

Meriwether Jones elected public printer by the General Assembly. Dec. 9

James Monroe re-elected governor by the General Assembly. Dec. 10

Certificate of Daniel L. Hylton that James Monroe had taken the oaths as governor. Dec. 11

Samuel Tyler elected member of the privy council by the General Assembly. Dec. 12

We, the undersigned, appointed a committee of the Executive to examine the Land office for the purpose of ascertaining the propriety of continuing in the public service the number of clerks usually employed by the Register, beg leave to report— Dec. 14, Council Chamber

That there are at present but five clerks employed in the land office, the services of one clerk having been dispensed with in the course of the last six months.

That the Register is (besides superintending the operations of his office), engaged in examining the Returns made to his office, in comparing and examining, with the surveys, all grants issued thereon, in granting receipts and in keeping an account of the returns and of the fees of the office.

That the chief clerk is generally employed in issuing warrants and grants.

That one other records all grants that are issued.

That two other clerks are employed in examining the plats and certificates of survey recorded by Major William Price.

And that the remaining clerk is engaged in examining, copying and

1801.  
Dec. 14,  
Council  
Chamber

entering on the margin of the warrants the grants which are issued thereon.

From time to time, since our appointment for the purpose aforesaid, we have been attentive to the operations of the said office, and have with pleasure observed that the hours of business are as numerous there as in any other public office under the roof of the Capitol. We are satisfied also that the Register and his clerks are and have been during office hours, faithfully and assiduously engaged in the performance of their several duties. It is proper to add that, from the best information we can procure, it will be necessary to continue the present number of clerks till the examination of the plats and certificates of surveys recorded by Maj'r William Price shall be completed. We are, however, informed that that will shortly be done, at which period the Register will, no doubt, himself suggest the propriety of reducing the number of his clerks.

JOHN GURRANT,  
AL. McRAE,  
W. FOUSHEE,  
ALEX'R STUART.

Dec. 16,  
Fairfax

Certificate of Richard Ratcliffe, J. P., that Daniel Gooding had made oath as to the death of William Stanhope, late Sheriff of Fairfax, and that Captain John Stanhope, son of deceased, said he died on the 15th instant.

#### DANIEL ATHERTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 19,  
Richmond

Acknowledging his appointment as assistant master armourer. Thought Richmond had many natural advantages, and had come to see what encouragement there was for an iron manufactory. Had visited Captain Clarke (whom he met in the North, the preceeding summer), and was exceedingly pleased with the manufactory of arms.

December  
Berkeley Co.

Certificate of Henry Bedinger, Clerk of County, that the Court recommended Wm. Riddle for Coroner.

John Shield, Sheriff of Norfolk County, Dennis Dawley, Sheriff of Princess Anne, James McClemsey, Sheriff of Nansemond, and Seth Foster, Mayor of Norfolk Borough, certify that at an election held April 22d, Thomas Newton was elected State Senator.

Edward Lewis, Deputy of Robert Booth, Sheriff of Sussex, certifies that at election held April 22d, 1801, John Cargill and John R. Mason were elected members of the House of Delegates. 1801.

Bernard Lipscomb, Deputy for Isaac Quarles, Sheriff of King William, certifies that at an election held April 22d, 1801, Wm. Aylett and Wm. Gregory were elected members of the House of Delegates.

Wm. Boon for Henry A. Ashton, Sheriff of King George; Robert Crutcher for James Prim, Sheriff of Stafford; and Armstrong McKenney for Samuel Templeman, Sheriff of Westmoreland, testify that on April 22d, 1801, John Hungerford was elected member of the State Senate.

The petition of Thomas Myers, a citizen of Lancaster county, to his Excellency James Monroe, Governor of the State of Virginia, sheweth unto your Excellency that your petitioner being injured and aggrieved in his property by divers elopements of his slaves to the Northern States, especially to the States of New York and Pennsylvania, and whereas it may be expedient to reclaim the said slaves and bring them to a sense of their duty, and your petitioner being a private citizen and not knowing in what manner rightly to proceed, or at least would wish to take such steps as your Excellency may think proper to sanction, that your petitioner by such a step imprudently adventured might perhaps bring himself in jeopardy and the attempt prove abortive. He therefore wishes letters of introduction and obedience, that your petitioner may be indemnified in the attempt, obtain his property, and save himself harmless.

THO. MYERS.

Joseph Hale, for Geo. Trumbull, Sheriff of Franklin county; Micajah Clark, for John Morris, Sheriff of Campbell; William Hopkins, for William Terry, Sheriff of Bedford; John Rowland, Jr., for John Wells, Sheriff of Henry; Wm. Banks, for Wm. Carter, Sheriff of Patrick; and James F. Johnson, for James Johnson, Sheriff of Pittsylvania, certify that on April 22d, 1801, George Penn was elected State Senator from the district composed of their respective counties.

1801. *A Package of Letters of John Clarke Relating to the Construction of the Penitentiary House, the Building of the Public Warehouse, and the Building of the Manufactory of Arms, the Procuring Artificers and outfit for the Same, &c., Running Through the Year 1801.*

JOHN CLARKE AND GEO. WILLIAMSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

In compliance with the desire suggested in your letter addressed to us on the 20th ultimo, that we should examine the arms sent here by Mr. McCormick and compare each several parcel with the pattern and report the same to you, we have opened all the boxes of arms (thirteen in number) at the Penitentiary, sent by Mr. McCormick, and compared each several parcel with the pattern, and report as follows, viz:

They all appear to be of one quality, consequently there does not appear to have been a failure in the latter parcels, as was suggested in your letter, above alluded to. On comparing the several parcels with the pattern, we find that altho' the materials of which these are made, appear to be of equal quality with the pattern, yet the workmanship has not been executed with as great a degree of neatness, polish, &c. (particularly the interior workmanship of the locks), as the pattern, which is the only difference we have discovered.

We think the workmanship of these arms tolerably well executed, but it may be proper to notify Mr. McCormick that the workmanship of his arms has been more roughly executed than the workmanship of the pattern.

We are, &c.

January 7.

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, JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I received your letter of the 26th inst, respecting the removal of the Arms from the Point of Fork to Richmond, and a suitable deposit for them, and requesting me to examine the public buildings here, and report whether either of them are capable of furnishing such accommodation; and if neither is, which can be put in that situation in the shortest time and at the least expense.

Since the receipt of your letter, I have examined the public buildings, and am of opinion that neither of them will afford eligible accommodation for the keeping of arms in the order usual at Arsenals. As workmen are and will be daily employed about every part of the Manufactory of Arms until its completion, when the manufacturing will be commenced, it puts that building out of the question for such a purpose.

The apartments of the Penitentiary building, which are at present unoccupied, might at no great expense be put in a situation to keep arms,



but the walls which are of considerable thickness having not long been erected, contain so much moisture as to induce a fear that arms could not be kept therein secure from rust. I know from experience that the arms lately cleaned and stamped there, were uncommonly apt to rust. If it should be deemed proper to deposit the arms in those apartments of the Penitentiary, it will be necessary that windows be glazed, and the walls entirely ceiled with plank to prevent as far as possible any injury from the dampness of the walls. I suppose these apartments (which are at present in an unfinished state,) might be put in order in about three weeks, but how long these apartments can be spared for the purpose of keeping the arms, seems at present very uncertain.

The garret of the Capitol cannot be made a fit place for the keeping of arms in order, without the admission of light and air, which would require that dormers or sky-lights should be made through the roof, and would be considerably more expensive than the preparation of the unoccupied rooms at the Penitentiary.

I take this opportunity to observe that I think the security of the Penitentiary building and the security of the arms kept there, requires that the gun powder now in that building should be removed.

I am, &c.

January 27.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Since my last communication to you on the subject of a fit place in which to deposit the arms intended to be brought from the Point of Fork to the City of Richmond, I have, with the Honorable Wm. Fourshée, reviewed the garret of the Capitol, in order to ascertain what preparation is requisite to put that apartment in a situation to receive the arms. Upon examination, we discovered that the light, which is admitted through the glass skylight in the roof—is prevented from illuminating the garret by perpendicular walls, which extend from the floor of the garret up to the skylight, forming a square about the size of the skylight immediately above the dome, which is lighted from above. If these walls (which are of lath and plaster) were taken away and substituted (entirely) with glass doors, which may be occasionally opened on clear, dry days, &c., it may probably afford sufficient light and air to the garret. But if, after making this improvement (which appears to be expedient in any event, if the arms are to be deposited in the garret), it should be found that a greater admission of light and air will be necessary, a window in each of the pediments of the roof may be made, the form of which should be the segment of a circle proportioned to the form of the pediment. Windows in that form would, I think, rather increase than diminish the beauty of the pediments and the building. They

1801. need not, however, be made until it is ascertained that the improvement first above mentioned is insufficient for the introduction of light and air.

If the Capitol, whose height is considerably greater than that of any other building in its neighborhood, should receive into its roof a considerable number of arms, it will cause additional attraction of lightning, which will, perhaps, make it necessary to add to the number of conductors, or lightning rods, on the roof. This expense must be incurred, wherever the arms are deposited, in order to guard them against that potent and destructive element.

As it is contemplated that barracks are to be built for the Corps who are to guard the above mentioned arms, I take the liberty of mentioning (from information given me by a person who resides at Rocketts) that the house near Rocketts belonging to the Commonwealth, in which there was formerly an inspection of hemp, has not been for several years past occupied for that or any other purpose. This building being of no service to the Commonwealth, the inspection of hemp having ceased there, and it being made of wood, is subject to destruction in various ways, being under the care or protection of no particular agent. If the Executive should deem it proper to have it removed, it might be fitted up and converted into barracks. It stands, as I am told, on a half-acre lot of ground belonging to the Commonwealth. The size of this house, I think (but it is from recollection only that I say it, not having seen it lately), is about 40 ft. long, 28 or 30 ft. wide and two stories in height.

I am, &c.,

February 4th.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have received your letter of the 9th inst. requesting me to have the garret of the Capitol prepared as a depository for the arms which are to be brought from the Point of Fork to Richmond. Also that I should furnish a plan for a Tobacco Warehouse, to be built on the canal; and also that I should have the house near Rocketts, the property of the Commonwealth, removed to some suitable station for the accommodation of the guard which is to be raised, in which case I am desired to apply to you to designate the site on which it is to be placed.

In conformity with your letter I have employed Mr. Anderson Barret, whose workmen are now engaged in making the necessary preparations in the garret of the Capitol. There being on the garret floor a considerable quantity of rubbish, consisting of old lime, mortar, brickbats, &c., and some of the slate with which the roof was formerly covered (the removal of which being indispensably necessary), I wish to know where these articles are to be deposited when removed from thence.

I should have furnished a plan for the Tobacco Warehouse for your

examination to-day, but the badness of the weather for a few days past has prevented the Inspectors of Tobacco in the city of Richmond from coming to town, from whom I wished to be informed of the number of hogsheads annually sent to Richmond from the inspections above, so that the warehouse might be suited to the distinct or separate accommodation of the tobacco from each of the several upper inspections on James river.

You will please inform me as soon as convenient, of the particular spot on which the house which is to be removed from Rocketts is to stand.

I am, &c.

February 14.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I stated to you in a former communication, that the workmanship of the stone walls of the Manufactory of Arms was so badly executed by Mr. Ninian Wise and Mr. James Carney, who built them, that it was necessary their defective work should be supported by abutments, arches, &c., and the additional work done by them being nearly finished, and they being (I believe) in want of their money that may be due to them, it is necessary that their accounts should be finally settled. I conceive it to be my duty to observe to you that in order to ascertain the balances which may be due to them, the walls originally intended to be built should be viewed by competent judges and such deductions for defects made from the prices stipulated in their contracts as the said judges shall deem just and proper, and that the value of the stone abutments, arches, &c., which have been built to support the defective original walls, should also be ascertained by said judges or referees, which would shew how much is due to them from the public. I think Nath'l Quarles and Jesse Bowles are as competent and disinterested judges as can be got in the neighborhood of Richmond, and it may, I think, be proper that a committee of the Council and myself should attend them.

I have received your letter of the 18th inst. requesting me to have 2000 stand of the arms from the Point of Fork stamped, and have spoken to Geo. Williamson, the only person that I know of that would undertake that job. His terms are 4d. for stamping each musket, and a laborer furnished to assist him in packing them. Or he will let his own son stamp them at 7s. 6d. per day, having his board furnished.

I am, &c.

February 21.

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MOSES BATES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Proposals for furnishing bricks for Tobacco Warehouse at 35s. per thousand, lime 1s. 5d. per bushel; scaffold and sand, and laying same 17s. per thousand.

1801.

1801. Wm. Giles—Proposes to find sand and scaffolding and lay bricks at 18s. per thousand. Second offer to lay bricks at 16s. 6d. per thousand.

Curtis Carter—Proposes to lay bricks at 20s. per thousand, furnishing scaffold and attendance, sand by public. Second offer to lay bricks at 16s. 6d. per thousand.

John Spotswood Moore—Proposes to furnish brick at 36s. per thousand; lime at 1s. 6d. per bushel.

Randolph Mims—Proposes to lay bricks at 19s. per thousand. Second offer to lay bricks at 18s. per thousand.

March 28.

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#### JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

As the State Manufactory of Arms will in all probability be ready to commence the making of arms at the end of the present year, I deem it proper to inform you that arrangements should now be made for procuring implements, materials, &c., for their manufacture. Such articles as vices, anvils, bellows, files, &c., may, I conceive, be imported on better terms, and the workmanship will in all probability be better executed than they can be made and sold on in this country, where no such manufacture is carried on. And as merchants are now about to send to Europe for goods for the ensuing Autumn, an opportunity offers by which those articles may be imported in proper time to commence the work. Seasoned wood for gun stocks and other necessary materials, such as proper iron and steel, emory, &c., &c., &c., should also be provided.

As these arrangements should be made by the person who is to Superintend the works after their completion, it appears to be expedient that such Superintendent should now be appointed in order that those arrangements may be immediately made.

As my superintendence of the Manufactory of Arms commenced before you came into the office of Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, it may not be improper to inform you that previous to the commencement of that establishment, I was requested by your predecessor Governor Wood, to examine and report my opinion of the most eligible situation in Richmond or its vicinity on which to establish a manufactory of Arms, capable of the annual manufacture of four thousand stands.

I accordingly after due examination, gave a preference to the site on which the works are now erecting, and the better to enable me to form a complete plan for the works, it was deemed proper by the honorable the Executive, that I should take a view of the several works of a similar kind in the Northern and Eastern States.

Soon after my return from this tour, I drew, and presented to the Gov-

ernor and Council, a plan for the Manufactory of Arms, which was adopted in all its parts and agreeably to which the works have progressed. On the adoption of the plan, I was informed by Governor Wood, that it was the desire of himself and of the members of the Council, that I should Superintend the erection of the works, and enquired if I had any objection to it. I informed him that I felt a great desire to carry my plan into full execution, but that the mere Superintendence of the works during their erection, would not justify such a sacrifice as I should be obliged to make in quitting the pursuits in which I was engaged: but that if it was contemplated that I should superintend the works after their completion, I was willing to undertake the superintendence of their erection.

Governor Wood replied that as the works were not begun, he thought it would be rather premature to appoint the person who should superintend them after their completion; but he observed that it was his wish, and he believed the wish of all the members of the Council also, that I should superintend the works after their completion. Upon which the members of the Council unanimously said that it was their wish that I should superintend the works after their completion. With that prospect in view, I informed them that I would undertake the superintendence of the works. I then retired from the Council chamber. At the rising of the Board I was informed that my salary was fixed at £300 pr. annum for superintending the manufactory of arms, to which £100 p. annum was added for superintending the Penitentiary building, where I had to supply the place of Mr. Latrobe, the former architect, and Mr. Callis, the former Superintendent, from that time, and on the terms above stated. I have conducted the public works not, I hope, without giving satisfaction to those who put me into that office.

The former favorable opinion of the Executive with regard to the qualifications which they conceived I possessed for superintending the manufacture of arms after the completion of the works, is not, I trust, weakened by my part of my conduct since I engaged in the public business; and I further trust (if I have the appointment) that no exertions on my part will be wanting to meet their expectations.

By the exertions which I have made from early youth to obtain such qualifications as might better my fortune and be of service to the community, I have been led to hope for and expect encouragement from that community. In my present situation, and in that to which I look forward, the whole of my time (if I obtain the appointment), must necessarily be devoted to and fully occupied by official duties, which will put it out of my power to derive advantage from any other pursuit. I therefore hope that it will not be deemed unreasonable that I should expect a more adequate compensation than I have heretofore been allowed, which has only been equal to the support of my family, (in my present situation,) more especially as in the prosecution of the business in which I was occu-

1801.      pied previous to my engagement with the public (as is well known), I generally made from 7 to £900 pr. annum.

I am, &c.

April 17th.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

There not being in or about Richmond any persons who are professionally painters and glaziers, I have lately got Messrs. David Holloway and Wm. McKim (who are as much in the habit of executing that kind of work as any persons in the city) to view the work done on the Capitol by Mr. Charles Cox, for which his account was lately presented for payment to the Executive. The account and the opinion of these two referees I enclose.

I also enclose a letter which I received this morning from Mr. Thomas Whitelaw, whose proposals for building the walls of the public tobacco warehouse were accepted by the Executive; but do not believe he has yet entered into any contract for that purpose. He wants an advance of money to enable him to prosecute the work.

I have, &c.

June 13th.

ALBEMARLE, 8th June, 1801.

MR. JOHN CLARKE:

Dear Sir—It is through you I find, by Dr. Foushee, that all claims of a public nature relative to the public buildings is brought forward to the Board. I therefore solicit the favor of you, as soon as possible after the receipt of this, to observe to the honorable gentlemen that it is customary with me in all my engagements, where I find everything necessary for the completion thereof, to have a sum of money subject to my call equal to one-third of the whole amount. This is intended principally for the purchase of provisions; this supposed third I wish only to be paid me by instalments, say \$500 once in two months. I do not expect to be in Richmond sooner than the 22nd of this present month, when I would be extremely favored by the receipt of the sum as before stated, and at the same time to have the foundations laid off and dug out, that I may begin to lay down stone for building the walls in the interim.

I am, &c.,

THOMAS WHITLAW.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

As I am to travel through some of the large commercial towns in the Northern States, I think it probable I might have it in my power to pur-

chase the window glass, iron, paint, lime, &c., requisite for the two public buildings under my superintendence, on better terms than those articles can be bought for in any of the towns of this State. Upon this subject you will be pleased to instruct me.

1801.

With the aid of the additional light afforded by the window lately made in the south gable end of the Capitol, I discovered a few days ago that the shaft of the southernmost chimney, which passes through the roof of that building, was so much cracked near the floor of the garret as to induce apprehension that fire might by issuing through the cracks, communicate to the timbers of that floor, some of which were worked into the brick work of the shaft, which appears to have been incautiously planned and badly executed, and has actually given way since its erection. As by its remaining in its present condition that great and expensive building may be destroyed, I have thought to mention this in order that the Executive, or the directors of the Capitol, if they find it expedient, may remedy the evil.

I am, &c.

June 20.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

As written articles of agreement are to be made with each artificer to be employed in our Manufactory of Arms, the number of contracts will be considerable, which makes it the more necessary that the form by which those contracts are to be drawn, should be an approved one. The enclosed, which is respectfully submitted to your consideration, is perhaps less objectionable than the form which you saw on the evening before I left Richmond, from which it is varied in some respects. I send it for your inspection, in order that if it should not meet your approbation as it is, that it may be so modified as fully to answer your wishes and the public interest. My want of information in law matters makes me timid in forming of contracts, and induces me now to request that an unexceptionable form may be sent to me, as a small error in each of the many contracts to be drawn might be attended with weighty consequences. The artificers in several of the branches will be employed to work by the pieces (as it is usually termed, viz: so much for making a gun barrel, a lock, a stock, a bayonet, &c.), and others in different branches will necessarily be employed on standing wages at a stated sum per month. After I obtain from you the form required, I shall vary the contracts as such circumstances occur, without deviation from the principles of the form.

The description of men of whom I am going in quest, are apt to make objections which however trifling they will adhere to, for which reason I am anxious to be prepared to meet their objections, and have to request information relative to the following circumstances should they occur.

1801. The married artificers who will not live in the barracks of the Manufactory, nor have their food dressed in the kitchen thereof, will probably prefer having the price of their rations in money; if so I suppose there will be no objection. Please to inform me on that point.—Agreed.

Perhaps the artificers will not consent to a reimbursement of the money to be advanced to them by the Commonwealth for travelling expenses, as they may conceive that the time spent by them in travelling will be a sufficient sacrifice of interest on their part. Please to instruct me respecting that if insisted on.

I suppose it will be proper that the artificers should give security if they can, for the fulfilment of their contracts: if they do not give security I suppose that is not to be a bar to my contracting with them. On this subject you will also please to inform me.—Not material.

I have waited here until now for the Fredericktown Stage, which runs from this place only thrice a week. I intend to set out to-morrow morning for Fredericktown; from thence I go to Tanney Town; from thence to Lancaster, (in quest of gunsmiths), and from thence to Philadelphia, to which place you will please forward your communications to me with directions to be left at the Post Office till called for.

I have just returned from spending an afternoon with Mr. Jefferson, (to whom I delivered the letter which you gave me in charge). From him and from General Dearborn, I have collected information which may be of considerable service to the object of my tour.

I am, &c.

July 6.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

In my rout through Maryland, I went to Tanney Town, had an interview with Mr. Thos. Gibson and examined the arms he offered for sale to our Executive. They are of indifferent quality, considerably inferior to those furnished by Mr. McCormick. He informed me his lowest price for them was twelve dollars per stand. I promised him I would inform you of his terms, and he will, I suppose, expect an answer from you; but as better arms may be purchased for a lower price, as you have been informed by Gen'l Shee, of this city, I would by no means recommend the purchase of them.

Having travelled in quest of workmen to every place in Maryland and Pennsylvania where I understood arms were manufactured, I had an opportunity of seeing specimens of their workmanship, and find that the arms manufactured in and about this city are generally of a quality superior to those I have seen elsewhere, the artists being generally more skillful. I have received many verbal proposals for making the four thousand stands of arms advertised by me for our State, but the terms



which Gen'l Shee informed you of being lower than any I have received, and the work in all probability much better executed, I think it unnecessary to trouble you with them. The workmen at several manufactories informed me they intended to make proposals for furnishing those arms, but required some time to decide on the terms. I informed them that when their proposals were made out they might address them to Gen'l Shee, who would forward them to Richmond; and on my arrival here I found that Gen'l Shee had received and forwarded to you several of their proposals. Some of the workmen informed me they intended to go to Richmond, and I have been informed that some of them are now there. A Mr. Miles, of this city, who purchased McCormick's implements, materials and unfinished work at a very low price, I understand, is now with you. On account of that advantageous purchase, I expect he would undertake them at a lower price than any other applicant. I have seen a considerable number of Gunsmiths in my tour through Maryland and Pennsylvania, but would make no contract with them, as I hope to meet with as good, or better workmen and on better terms in the Eastern States. I suppose about twenty gunsmiths might be got here; but as I know their terms, shall first see if I cannot procure them of equal skill and on more advantageous terms to the Eastward. There is a man here by the name of Haslett who was brought by McCormick from Ireland. He has had the chief management of McCormick's manufactory, and wishes to be employed at the Virginia Manufactory as under Master Armourer. He shewed me some specimens of his work, with which I was much pleased. Gen'l Shee recommended him highly, both as a skillful artist and as a good citizen. The workmen who formerly worked at McCormick's Manufactory are much attached to him.

At manufactories of arms on a large scale, there is, besides the principal agent or superintendent, a master armourer, whose duty it is to go around to the workmen employed in each several department to instruct them and work with them in each branch as occasion may require, so as to have the work well and expeditiously executed. For this purpose I expect Mr. Geo. Williamson will be employed in our works, he being an excellent gunsmith and a citizen of our State. But I think it probable that when we get fully into operation in all the branches at our works, the awkwardness of inexperienced men may make it necessary that more than one master armourer should be employed; but as that will depend on the skill of the workmen employed, it cannot now be known whether such a person will be necessary to assist Mr. Williamson, if he should be employed.

Mr. Haslett's terms are fifteen dollars per week and his rations found. In the hope of being employed in our manufactory he wishes to make six hundred stands of arms for our State, to keep him employed until our works are ready for operation. He has spoken to Gen. Shee and myself

1801.

1801. on that subject, and Gen. Shee requests me to write to you for information whether, if Mr. Haslett will make the six hundred stands, which he proposes to do on the same terms upon which you contract for all the rest advertised for, he might not be employed to make them. He promises in the event of being employed to make them, that not a stand shall be inferior to the model for the McCormick arms, which model was made by his own hands. If he gets that employment we may hereafter have it in our power to employ him, if his assistance shall be required. On this subject you will please inform Gen. Shee, as I do not expect to return here in less than three or four weeks.

Should you think proper to give Mr. Haslett the employment he desires, he will afford employment to workmen lately discharged from McCormick's works, who for want of employment may soon be widely dispersed and so engaged that they cannot be had when our works require them; or they may be engaged by the person who undertakes the supply of arms advertised for by our State, in which case they perhaps could not leave that employment until the completion of the contract made by their employer, which may prevent our getting them when we want them. I have seen those artificers; they are willing to go immediately to Richmond on the terms on which they were employed by McCormick, but having at present no employment, they cannot remain here without it until our works are ready for them. I have made no other promise to them than if I could not get other workmen in the Eastern States equally skillful on lower terms, I would contract with them on my return to this city.

I have received several verbal proposals in different places, for furnishing the thousand cavalry swords advertised by me for our State, and have seen specimens of workmanship of the proposers. The two best specimens and on the lowest terms, were exhibited by a Mr. Rose and by a Mr. Goodman, both of the vicinity of this city. They have shown me swords of several kinds; the sword with the double-fluted blade, which is three feet in length, with a half-basket hilt, is mentioned in Mr. Rose's proposal, which I enclose, and I think deserves the preference. Mr. Goodman intends to make out his proposals in a day or two and carry them to Gen. Shee to be forwarded to you, as I shall not be here at the time. I informed them that they ought to go to Richmond, where they might exhibit the models by which they would make them and see whatever model you may be inclined to adopt; but they have great aversion to taking so long a journey upon uncertainty.

I am much disappointed in my expectation of purchasing to advantage the bar iron, lime, and window glass necessary for the two public buildings under my superintendence. The scarcity of iron here has seldom been equaled, owing it is said, to the obstructions in the commerce of those countries which formerly afforded supplies of that article, par-

ticularly Sweeden. I am well informed that not more than five or six tons can be found in this city, and the price of that is £50 per ton, which is £40 our own currency, besides the freight, &c., to Richmond. This price appears very high when it is recollected that most of the iron used in the grates in the Penitentiary I purchased in Richmond for £36 per ton. The price of lime and window glass are full as high here as at Richmond, and in order to get a sufficient quantity of lime to ship for our purposes, it would be necessary to wait here at least three weeks and purchase it from the wagons as it is brought to the city (for if it is purchased of those who are here called lime merchants, nearly a double price must be given), then purchase barrels and have it put up in order to ship.

1801.

Should I have an opportunity at New York or Boston to purchase those articles to advantage, I shall do so, but as the masters of vessels in those ports are much in the habit of freighting their vessels with bar iron and lime, (when no better employment offers) for the markets in the ports to the southward, only expecting to clear the freight and not meeting with an opportunity of selling off immediately on their arrival there, they are sometimes induced to sell on lower terms there than those on which they purchased, on which account we have frequently bought lime at Rocketts lower than it sold for where it was shipped. I have written to Mr. Prosser my assistant, not to rely on any purchase I may make before my return to Richmond, but to attend to the arrivals at Rocketts of vessels from this and the ports to the eastward.

There are several founders of bells in this city, whose work I have examined, but which I do not prefer to John Taylor's in Richmond, and as their price viz, half a dollar for w't, is the same as required by Mr. Taylor for furnishing three bells for our public buildings, I would advise that he should be employed to make them, provided I cannot get them on better terms in New York.

I have spent a part of several days in the State Prison or Penitentiary House at this place, and obtained all the information in my power respecting the regulation and government thereof. When I visit the one at New York, I shall be able to decide which is the best conducted; but it is presumable that our Penitentiary may derive considerable benefit from the adoption of some of the discipline and economy of them both.

Since the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., which I received the day before yesterday, I have conversed with Gen'l Shee respecting the commission for his services in proving, inspecting and forwarding the arms to Richmond. He says that when Gen'l Mason first spoke to him on the subject, he was a stranger to the business, having then no knowledge of the trouble and attention necessary. He observed that it was a delicate thing (which related to his own interest) to hint at the inadequacy of the compensation; that rather than the Executive of our State

1801. should think him unreasonable, he would cheerfully do the business without compensation, but that he really thought four per cent. but a reasonable and just compensation. From the inquiries I have made here respecting the compensation given for services nearly similar, I am induced to think that his ought to be augmented.

I am sorry to inform you that the Garden Glasses which you desired me to procure for you cannot be got at this place. The glass manufactory here is not now carried on, and those articles cannot be procured from the merchants of this city. I shall endeavor to get them at New York or Boston. I find that the business in which I am engaged will require a greater length of time than I was first aware of. Such artists as I wish to employ are not to be found in considerable numbers at any one place, but being widely dispersed, requires much time in travelling to see them. Having left every necessary direction for the public buildings under my superintendence, I flatter myself with the hope that they are going on prosperously; but notwithstanding my desire to return as speedily as possible, I shall not set my face toward Richmond until I have made every exertion in my power to advantageously accomplish the object of my mission.

I am, &c.

Philadelphia, July 23.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I find but few gunsmiths in or about this city, and they are only such as repair fowling pieces and are not inclined to remove to Richmond. I shall set out from hence to day for the eastward, and mean to travel to every place where I find a prospect of getting artificers for our works.

I expect bar iron may now be bought in Richmond cheaper than at this place: the price here is eight dollars per cwt., which is £48 our currency, not to mention the freight and the danger of seas. Window glass is fifteen dollars per box, which is a higher price than usual at Richmond, and lime cannot be procured here. I have written to Geo. Prosser to inform me of the prices of those articles at Richmond, and shall act accordingly as I find it to be to the interest of the public.

There are a few bell founders in New York. The price for their work is half a dollar per pound, but their work is in so little repute, that the people here import from Europe all the bells for their public buildings.

I have spent a day at the State prison here, and obtained all the information I could get there. I was much pleased with its regulations and economy, for which I think it rather preferable to the one at Philadelphia, and certainly deserves to be imitated by our own Penitentiary. I shall not attempt a detail in writing of all the regulations, &c., proper to be adopted in our institution until my return, as it would be both too tedious

and voluminous in my present circumstances. The application of heat to the culinary apparatus in the kitchens of this prison, is taken I find, from the Count of Rumford's writings on the subject of saving fuel. Very little heat is suffered to escape in its application to the boilers, which lessens considerably the expense of fuel; the boilers are quite of the common kind, and the improvement lies entirely in the brick work in which the boilers are fixed, which is so constructed that by means of flues the heat is conveyed all around the surface of the boilers in a spiral direction.

The boilers are large iron pots which contain from 80 to 100 gallons each. These I suppose may be had in Richmond. I have written to Geo. Prosser to inform me if they can be bought in Richmond. If they cannot, when I return to Philadelphia I will procure them there, and on my return to Richmond, will endeavor to have the brick work executed on the most approved plan.

I am sorry to inform you that I find it impossible to procure any garden glasses here. I have nothing further to communicate at present, only that the inhabitants of New York are very healthy and entertain no apprehension of the yellow fever. Their political sentiments here as well as in New Jersey seem to have undergone a complete change since I was here in the year 1798.

I am, &c.

Jan. 27, New York City.

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#### JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having been called on by the Honorable Executive to form the plan and conduct the erection of the Virginia Manufactory of Arms and to engage the artificers who are to be employed therein, and being appointed by them to superintend the works when they get into operation, I sensibly feel the weight of duty attached to the important trusts which are confided to me, and that the success of that establishment depends much on the faithful discharge of my duty in these several capacities. To meet the public expectation and promote the public good, all my powers have and shall continue to be exerted. The erection of a permanent Manufactory of arms in the heart of our State must afford much satisfaction to all good Virginians, and is surely one of the most necessary establishments ever yet undertaken by our country by which our Militia may, at a cheap rate, be supplied with arms manufactured by our own citizens from the materials with which nature has furnished us in great abundance, without relying, as formerly, on foreign countries for our means of defence; for which large sums of money were given to European Artists while the American Manufacturer was neglected and the art of making arms, which should have received the greatest public

1801. patronage in a country like ours, met with so little encouragement that, until of late, we seldom found an artist in that line whose interest promoted him to follow the profession.

To one who having had the agency of our works from their commencement (which when completed will, I flatter myself, be superior to any establishment of its kind in America), the prospect is doubly interesting. The discretionary powers which were necessarily given to me for the purpose of engaging the Artists for our Manufactory required my utmost exertions to procure the most skillful men and on the cheapest terms possible, and made it necessary that I should travel to all places in the United States which afforded a prospect of success. And it being presumable that in our works a great number of young Virginians will be taught the art of making arms, whose information must be derived from the experienced workmen, and whose minds will by habit receive a bias from them, it is an object of great importance, and one which has called forth my most earnest care and attention, that none but the best artificers and those of the most unexceptionable and exemplary characters should be employed in our works. For the attainment of those desirable objects, I have visited every manufactory of arms of any magnitude in the United States, which were chiefly established, lying between this city and Boston. In performing this tour, an opportunity has been afforded me not only of examining specimens of their work, but likewise of learning the true characters of the Artists as citizens, and of employing them on cheaper terms than I otherwise could, and by conversing with them I was generally so fortunate as to completely remove their prejudices against our climate. If I had have remained at Richmond and advertised for gunsmiths, it is more than probable I should only have obtained the most indifferent workmen, who could not get employment at other works, and who would probably have required higher wages than I have agreed to give for the best artists. The United States and several of the individual States, having within the last three years engaged the making of a considerable number of arms, many small manufactories for that purpose have been erected in various parts of the Northern and Eastern States for the individuals who undertook to manufacture them; and it being both my duty and inclination to employ the best artists and on the best terms in my power, I resolved not to return until I had made every exertion in my power to effect the object of my mission to advantage, consequently much more of my time has been taken in travelling to those manufactories than I at first expected. I returned from this tour on the 15th inst., and am happy to inform you that my endeavors have been successful. I have engaged sixty-eight artificers for the several branches of manufacture of arms. Six others have written to me, since my arrival here, that they have, since I left them, concluded to come to our works.

The artificers I have engaged were particularly selected by me from all the works in the Northern and Eastern States, and are, I believe, as skillful and industrious mechanics as any of the kind in the United States. My object being to obtain the best workmen on the cheapest terms, I resolved to visit all the manufactories and see all the artificers at them before I would engage with any of them.

I found the wages of such men lower in Massachusetts and Rhode Island than in any other of the States. I therefore engaged in those States all the workmen of the desired description I could, and on my return back again to the works I first visited, the workmen there were induced to fall in their prices rather than not be employed when I informed them of the low terms on which I had already engaged similar artists in the two States above mentioned. Nineteen of the above sixty-eight workmen are now employed by Mr. Haslet at Philadelphia in the manufacture of the 600 stand of arms undertaken by him for this State at the works which were formerly Mr. McCormick's. The greater number of these men are natives of Ireland: some of them are Pennsylvanians. I engaged them at the same rates which Mr. Haslet is now giving them, which are rather lower than the wages formerly given to them by Mr. McCormick. All the others of the sixty-eight I engaged in the New England States: they are native Americans, and their wages are rather lower than those I engaged in and about Philadelphia. About half the number of the New England artificers served apprenticeship in the Springfield manufactory of arms, and about half of whom are natives of Connecticut.

A Mr. Henry Foxall, who superintended the Eagle Works, on the Scuykill, near Philadelphia, for founding of cannon, &c., and was a partner of Mr. Robert Morris in that foundry, has lately contracted with the Secretary of War to make cannon for the United States, for which purpose he has lately built a foundry near the city of Washington, and has removed his family to George Town. I visited the Eagle Works while I was in Philadelphia in the year 1798, and became acquainted with Mr. Foxall. I was much pleased with his arrangements, and with the quality of the cannon made there, which were much superior to any of the iron guns made at the other foundries I visited. From his great experience, he has made very considerable improvements in the art of making ordnance, and is acknowledged by the best judges to understand that business better than any man in America.

Conceiving it to be an object of considerable importance that the foundry in our works should be benefitted by Mr. Foxall's improvements, I spoke to him when at his works at Georgetown, on my return home, relative to the introduction of his improvements into our works. He is willing to come to Richmond for a few days for that purpose, should the Executive think proper to require it.

1801. As a material part of his improvements are in the construction of the furnaces within the foundry house, and the proper arrangements for refining the mettle, he thinks it would be best that he should come immediately if required, in order that the brick work, &c., of the furnaces of the foundry may be carried up with the foundry house, and as I intend to have that house begun in a very short time, and as I think it highly proper that we should avail our works of those improvements, I take the liberty of advising that he should come for a few days before our foundry house is begun. It may be proper to observe that a compensation will be expected by Mr. Foxall for the introduction of his improvements in our works, and as a few workmen will be required when our foundry is got into operation, he will be the most proper person to procure good workmen for our purpose.

I send enclosed the laws regulating reports, &c., respecting the State prisons at Philadelphia and New York. I have been much hurried since my return, but as soon as I have a little leisure I mean to put on paper some observations which I have made relative to the government of those prisons, which may, perhaps, be serviceable to the Keeper of our Penitentiary. I have engaged at Philadelphia the boilers, cast-iron grates, and the wrought-iron work necessary for culinary apparatus required for our Penitentiary by the inspectors thereof, which when completed, will be of identical dimensions and construction of those in the prison at Philadelphia; they are by this time, I expect, nearly ready to be shipped.

The great number of convicts in the State prisons at Philadelphia and New York has made it necessary that the principal Keeper of each of those jails should have four discreet assistant Keepers, it being impossible for the principal Keeper to supervise the whole business with that particular attention which is absolutely necessary for the government of dissolute and perverse men, to keep them at their employment, and prevent their escape, for which last purpose a guard is kept through the night by the assistant Keepers, who continually walk the rounds and relieve each other every two hours, when a bell is tolled for the purpose, which must be infinitely preferable to a guard of unprincipled soldiers, on whom bribery might be practiced with success. A Mr. Philip Edwards is the principal Keeper of the State Prison at Philadelphia; he has two brothers who act as assistant Keepers under him; they have had six or seven years experience in the management of that prison; they perfectly understand the routine of duty necessary to be performed, and are well recommended as being well qualified for the purpose. As the number of prisoners increase in our Penitentiary (and I fear we may calculate upon a rapid augmentation) it will evidently be necessary that the Keepers should have assistants, and when such assistants are employed, those who are well acquainted with the requisite duties should be preferred. Presuming that our Penitentiary might derive considerable benefit from



the improvements made by lengthy experience in other similar institutions by the introduction of such a man, I hope Mr. Joseph Edwards, who is highly spoken of by the Inspectors of that establishment, and a brother of the Principal Keeper above mentioned, respecting his engagement in our Penitentiary in the capacity of under Keeper, provided his services should be required. He, after deliberating some days on the subject, informed me that he was willing to engage in that capacity for four hundred dollars per annum and his board found by the public, or six hundred dollars per annum if he boards himself.

1801.

It having been required of me to visit those institutions in order to make observations, I respectfully submit to your consideration whether it would not be much more beneficial to our Penitentiary that such a man as I have described should be employed to assist the Keeper thereof, than both the young, inexperienced men who are now employed to assist Mr. Mims.

I am, &c.

Sept. 25.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have received your letter of the 12th inst. enclosing sundry papers respecting a delay in the progress of the public buildings at Richmond while I was gone to the North in quest of Gunsmiths, and requesting me to examine accurately into the transaction and report to you whether there was an actual failure, the cause of it if it existed, and the probable injury resulting therefrom to the Commonwealth; and that my report might be correct, it would be proper for me, in making the enquiry, to give the parties concerned, notice of the time and place, that they might be present, if they should think fit to make such explanations as the case admitted.

In order to make an accurate report, I examined the contracts for furnishing bricks and lime and also the contracts for laying bricks in both the Manufactory of Arms and the Penitentiary, and called upon Messrs. Quarles and Bowles (who usually count the bricks laid in those buildings) to count and ascertain the number furnished for each of them in the present year. Mr. Bowles being absent in the country, William Rawleigh was substituted in his place and acted with Mr. Quarles. In compliance with the contracts for supplying the bricks and lime, Col. John Harvie was bound to furnish for each of the above buildings 150 thousand, good, hard-burnt bricks, and a sufficient quantity of good lime for working them, in each of the months following, viz: May, June, July, August, September and October. So that, strictly complying with his contracts in the monthly supply of 150 thousand bricks as aforesaid, he would have furnished 750 thousand for each of the buildings at the end of last

1801. month. But Messrs. Quarles and Rawleigh, who yesterday counting the bricks in both the buildings, Report that the whole number furnished and laid in the walls of the Manufactory of Arms this year, is 558,502 bricks, besides 12,430 which were carried from the kilns for the Manufactory of Arms, to build the walls of the Barracks—making the whole number furnished at the Manufactory of Arms in the present year, to be 570,932, which is 179,068 short of a strict compliance with his contract to furnish bricks for that building.

Messrs. Quarles and Rawleigh also report the number of bricks furnished and laid at the Penitentiary in the present year, to be 293,279, besides 81,007 which were carried from thence to build the walls of the Barracks, making in all 374,286 furnished for that building in the present year, which shows a deficiency of 375,732 bricks, that by a strict compliance with the contract, should have been furnished by the end of last month for the Penitentiary.

Col. Harvie states that the bricklayers were furnished with bricks and lime so as to keep them employed; that it was in his power easily to have supplied bricks in greater numbers if they had been required, but that he never heard a complaint for want of bricks. To prove this statement, he has adduced the testimony on oath of Theoderick Massie and James Ratcliff.

Mr. Martin Mims (who entered into contract to lay the bricks at the Penitentiary before I had the Superintendence of that building), is not bound to lay a definite number in any given time. He states that he commenced the laying of bricks early in the present season, and continued it as long as there were any bricks to work, and was then under the necessity of dismissing his workmen for want of employment. That as soon as a small supply was again got ready, he collected his workmen and laid them in the walls, and after waiting ten days, was compelled again to discharge them for want of work: that for want of a sufficient supply of bricks in the early part of the season, being obliged to discharge his hands who engaged themselves elsewhere, he could not afterwards procure a sufficient number of them to go on with the work extensively. To prove the truth of this statement, he has introduced the testimony on oath of Joseph Kimbrough and John Winston.

Benjamin Haley who is engaged in laying bricks at the Manufactory of Arms, states that he had engaged a sufficient number of workmen for the purpose, at the commencement of the year, to go on with the work extensively, but that having much sickness among his workmen and laborers, he could not possibly keep so great a number employed as he had intended, and adduces the testimony of Chisholm Austin on oath, and of Miles Turpin in support of his statement.

Having had a meeting of the parties concerned agreeably to your request, and collected all the information I could gain upon the subject, I have to report to you as follows, viz:

That all the bricks which were to be furnished under the last contracts, for supplies of that article for the Penitentiary, were to be made in the present season except the remnant of a kiln made last year, which were intended to commence the laying this spring, and a considerable part of that remnant being taken to build the walls of the Barracks. Before a sufficient supply of bricks could be made this spring, the bricklayers at the Penitentiary (in April) worked the few that were there into the walls of that building, and being dismissed by their employer in the early part of the bricklaying season for want of materials, they engaged themselves to other employers; and the season for laying being considerably advanced before a sufficient supply of bricks for many workmen was furnished, the undertaker of the laying could not procure in or about Richmond as many workmen as was intended to be kept employed.

And Col. Harvie, conceiving that all that was requisite on his part, would be the delivery of bricks as they were called for by the undertaker of the laying or his workmen, was governed in his supplies by the number of workmen Mr. Mims kept employed.

As to the delay of the brick work of the Manufactory of Arms, it appears by the enclosed papers and from the best information I can collect, that both the making and laying of bricks at this building was retarded by sickness among the people employed.

As superintendent of those buildings, I regret that the brick work has made no greater progress in the present season. I, however, do not conceive that any real injury will result to the Commonwealth from the delay. The brick work of all the rooms of the Penitentiary intended for the confinement of criminals is finished, and the brick work of all the Apartments of the Manufactory of Arms intended for the *Manufacture of Small Arms* is also finished.

There are now about 70,989 burnt bricks, and 285,900 unburnt at the Penitentiary, and about 39,480 burnt and 271,178 unburnt bricks for the Manufactory of Arms.

I am, &c.

October 18.

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JOHN CLARK TO HENRY FOXALL.

As soon as I saw the Governor after my return from Georgetown, I suggested to him the propriety of getting you to introduce your improvements in the art of making cannon into our works at this place, which he communicated to the Council. They are desirous that your improvements should be adopted by us, and wish to know what the expense of your coming here and giving the necessary directions, &c., will be. I hinted that I supposed you would leave that matter to their decision. The Governor observed that as they could form no idea of the requisite

1801. compensation, and from motives of delicacy it would be better that the members of the Executive Council should be informed upon that subject, I have, therefore, to request you to let me know as soon as possible what your terms will be, that I may inform them thereof.

I am, &c.

Oct. 30.

COLUMBIA FOUNDRY, Nov. 9th, 1801.

Dear Sir—I received your favor of the 30th ult. In reply have to observe:

I have already informed you that it would give me great pleasure to render every assistance in my power to the furtherance and completion of such a laudable and useful establishment on the most improved and eligible plan.

My present concerns in Philadelphia Keep tryst Furnace and at this place call for (I may say) all my time, and is sufficient to engross well nigh all my attention. Nevertheless, I would most cheerfully appropriate as much time as would be necessary to come down and lay out the works and get for you such hands as should be able with judgment and propriety to carry them on. This part of the business will be, I dare say, somewhat difficult, but not so difficult I hope but they may be procured. The more difficult part of the Boring Mill, together with the intricate parts of the machinery, will call for my particular attention, and oblige me to be present. Consequently I shall be under the unavoidable necessity of visiting you several times.

Respecting the compensation for my direction and trouble, it is what I expected to have left wholly to them to determine, not doubting but they would have met my expectations on the occasion; but as it is his Excellency's wish that the sum should be made definite, I beg leave to state, sir, that my traveling and other expenses being attended to, I shall after the works are in operation, should they (which I have no doubt they will) meet with proper approbation, feel myself justified in saying my compensation shall be one thousand dollars. Notwithstanding which, I shall then, with the most perfect deference to their decision, receive less if they should (which I am willing to risque) think me extravagant in my charge.

I am, &c.

HENRY FOXALL.

Mr. John Clarke.

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JOHN CLARKE TO JAMES BYERS.

I rece'd last evening your favor of the 20th inst., which informs me that my letter to Col. Joseph Williams was delivered to him, and of your

hopes that I shall not be disappointed in the Artificers from Springfield, and also assuring me that much pains are taken by Ames to discourage them.

If it be possible that he can act with so much duplicity as to pretend to forward my views in procuring workmen, while he in fact is taking measures to counteract them, I must rely on the aid of my friends to remove any impressions which such nefarious conduct may make.

The Artificers should not suffer themselves to be discouraged. If they are in doubt, let some of those among them who possess the confidence of the others, come and see the state of things and inform the rest. I thank you for the information contained in your letter, and have to request you to contradict any representations to the artificers which appear to be false.

I am, &c.

October 31.

#### JOHN CLARKE TO COL. JOSEPH WILLIAMS.

I received your friendly letter of the 30th inst., and tender you my thanks for the trouble you have taken to oblige me. I am sorry to find that insinuations prejudicial to my success in procuring Armourers in your quarter, are made by some persons there who not only deserve the apithet of being both uncandid and unfriendly, but are actuated by motives dishonorable to themselves and greatly injurious to the business in which I am engaged.

The workmen, I hope, will understand that those insinuations are intended to mislead and deceive them, and therefore will not, I trust, receive impressions from misrepresentations calculated to prejudice their minds.

You inform me that Col. Orr has suggested to you that he was informed that a certain Wm. B. Watson, who has been employed at that post as a clerk to the superintendent had engaged himself with me to be employed in our Factory: that, as he is a very obnoxious character to the workmen at Springfield, it will prevent a number of good characters engaging themselves with me, and that Col. Orr conceives "it will be necessary that the truth of this fact should be known there."

In reply I have to inform you that the report has not the shadow of foundation; that I never had an idea of employing him for any purpose, nor in any way or manner whatever. This I request you, my friend, to make known to Col. Orr and to the armourers at Smithfield. I will briefly inform you of all I ever knew or have ever had to do with Watson.

About three weeks ago I was surprised to see the said Watson at this place (who I may have seen before, but if I have, do not recollect the

1801. circumstance). He introduced himself to me by observing that he had seen me at Springfield, and presented a letter to me from Nathan Forbes, of that place, stating that Mr. Watson had come to Virginia with a view to obtain information respecting the manufacture of Iron into nails and farming utensils, and the profits to be derived therefrom. That Mr. Watson had been employed at the Springfield works for two years past as an assistant to the master armourers there, and that he was a man of integrity, uprightness, sobriety, &c., &c., and desired I would give Mr. Watson such information as he might require, and that if he should be pleased with the prospects of success, he requested I would recommend him as his (Forbes') friend into some respectable employment for the winter. I leave you to judge what attention I ought to pay, and what credit is due to a recommendation from Forbes.\* However, as it is a duty I owe to every stranger, I paid Mr. Watson all the attention my leisure from a multiplicity of business allowed me. He said he wished to purchase a mill-seat or situation for water-works on the James River Canal at this place, on which he informed me Doctor Forbes and himself intended to establish an extensive manufactory to cut nails by water. He came several times to my house, and whenever he required it, I gave him all the information I could respecting the object he had in view.

The last time he was there Mr. Samuel Edwards, a gunsmith from Connecticut, came with him. When they went away they both told me they intended to call on me again in two or three days. Neither of them, however, have called since, altho' there has been a lapse of ten or twelve days.

I rely on your friendship and that of my other friends at Springfield to counteract any assertion detrimental to my procuring armourers there.

It gave me much pleasure, as well as my friends here, to see in the public prints your spirited contradiction of the report circulated in your quarter that Mr. Jefferson intended to remove the public arms from Springfield and leave the people in that part of the Union defenceless. The publication of the truth in that instance by a person who had the best information of the subject, has, I conceive, done much good, for it has not only silenced that particular clamour, but shows that others of a like kind raised against the administration of that wise and good man are not founded in truth.

I am, &c.

Oct. 31.

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\* While I was in New England Mr. Forbes endeavoured to prejudice the armourers as much as possible against coming to Virginia, of which Col. Williams and others gave me information on my return to Springfield from Boston.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Before I went to the north in quest of armourers, I advertised in the Richmond newspapers for proposals to furnish 104,863 feet of timber, plank and scantling of various dimensions for the public tobacco warehouse now building on the canal; a bill for which I left with Mr. Wm. McKim when I went away. 1801.

Finding on my return home, that no proposals had been made during my absence for furnishing the said timber, &c., and that a part of it will probably be wanting before long, I spoke to some of the timber getters in this neighborhood on the subject, who have made the inclosed proposals.

Reuben George proposes to furnish the whole quantity for £1,322. Byrd George proposes to furnish the whole for \$1,434.15s.2½d. or £20 p'r M. for all the various scantling and \$5 p'r M. for the plank.

It is my duty to make their proposals known to you, but it is also my duty to point out the impropriety of contracting for the whole supply in the gross as they have proposed.

There is of this timber four kinds, viz: heavy white oak scantling, large pine scantling, small pine scantling and plank, each of which several kind should be of a different price. It has been made known to the applicants for the job, that I desired their proposals should specify the price p'r M., for each of the several sizes and quantities, by which means an opportunity would be given to persons who are not able to furnish the whole quantity to make proposals for furnishing either of the four kinds: so that by dividing the bill among several contractors, their competition would probably cause it to be undertaken cheaper and be more readily furnished, than by a single contractor: but these proposers do not seem inclined to undertake a part without the whole.

I am, &c.

Endorsed:

Capt. Clarke to make contracts for special proportions of the scantling and plank, according to its value, with those who will furnish it upon the best terms and whose respectability entitle them to confidence.

November 6.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Kitchens of the Manufactory of Arms form a part of the plan of the works, were intended to be but one story high. That single story was designed in the plan, and must necessarily be a tall one, to suit the other buildings connected therewith. By a very small additional expense,

1801. two low stories may be made in place of one tall story, which would afford convenient eating rooms over the Kitchens for the artificers, and the part of the building originally intended for their dining, &c., may be applied to the enlargement of their dormitories, or lodging apartments. The cheapness of the accommodation in this case induces me to recommend that it should be made. As the work is now progressing, I have to request that I may be informed of your decision to-day, if convenient.

I am, &c.

November 7.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

When I returned from my late tour I informed you I had engaged sixty-eight artificers for our Manufactory of Arms (whom I still flatter myself will come to our works), but finding of late that attempts are made to discourage and prevent their coming, I deem it proper to inform you thereof. I have therefore to state that as I passed through the city of Washington on my way to the north, Gen'l Dearborn, the Secretary of War, being informed of the object of my journey, politely favoured me with much serviceable information respecting the various manufactories throughout the United States, gave me sundry memorandums relative thereto, and, observing that some time would elapse before I would get to New England, he wrote a letter by post to Mr. David Ames, Superintendent of the United States Manufactory of Arms at Springfield, advising him of my intention to visit that place, and requesting him to give me every assistance he could in procuring artificers.

On my arrival at Springfield, Mr. Ames informed me of the receipt of said letter, and told me he would make every exertion in his power to forward my object, observing that I had come at the most favorable time for the purpose, as all the individual manufacturers had nearly completed their contracts, and their workmen (which were numerous) would be glad to get employment. He further observed that he supposed I might engage a considerable number of them at Springfield. I told Mr. Ames I did not wish to hire any workmen from the Springfield works that might injure the United States by their discontinuance there. He replied that as artificers were almost always making applications to him for employment, the works would labor under no disadvantage from my employing any artificers there who might choose to engage with me.

On the first and every succeeding evening, the tavern where I lodged was filled with artificers from the Springfield Manufactory who were desirous that I would employ them. I told them I would not engage any workmen until I had been at all the manufactories to the Eastward.

I, however, took a memorandum of the name and particular occupa-



tion of each applicant in order to make enquiries respecting their skill, disposition, &c. 1801.

On the day before I left Springfield for Boston, I informed Mr. Ames that most of his workmen had offered to employ themselves to me; that I had a list of their names, which I called over and requested him and his two master armourers (Col. Robt. Orr and Mr. Nathan Forbes) to inform me of the names of any of the men on my list whom they might conceive could not be well spared from their works. They then mentioned the names of a few; the residue of those on my list they had no objection to my employing if the men would agree to engage with me.

Col. Orr (the most enlightened and liberal man of the three) observed that the terms for which the workmen were severally employed at their works would be expired before the time I would want them, and that no objection ought to be made by them to any of the workmen engaging themselves to me. That as they would be free men when their time was expired, and consequently under no controul of theirs, he did not think they ought to say anything which might prevent their being employed after the expiration of the term for which they were engaged there.

The next morning I left Springfield to visit other manufactories farther to the Eastward, where I had the good fortune to engage a considerable number of armourers. On my return to Springfield, after several weeks absence therefrom (in the country around Boston and from thence to Providence), I was informed that Mr. Ames and Nathan Forbes (the particular friend of Ames) had been endeavouring during my absence to discourage the workmen at Springfield from engaging with me. However, the workmen seemed as anxious to engage with me on my return as when I left them. I engaged all the best of them, excepting those who had been objected to by Ames, &c., as above stated. It may not be improper here to observe that Mr. Ames and Mr. Forbes are not generally liked by the citizens and Artificers, and that Forbes in particular is detested by them.

I have lately received two letters from two of the most respectable inhabitants of Springfield, which I enclose with my answer to each of them. They will give you an idea of the attempts above alluded to.

As I have employed many of the best armourers at Springfield, and as a sufficient number of others of equal skill to supply their places, *cannot* (I presume) be easily obtained by Mr. Ames, I suppose he is fearful that the arms made at Springfield works will get into disrepute, and therefore endeavours to prevent the men from coming to our works whom he told me he was willing I should employ.

I fear nothing from the machinations of Mr. Ames and Mr. Forbes, nor any other men there who wear two faces. The workmen are now daily writing to me and seem determined to adhere to their engagement. I have however thought proper to inform you that this New England artifice is

1801. practiced, seemingly to answer the intentions of the Secretary of War, when at the same time measures are taken to defeat them.

If Mr. Ames had at first ingenuously told me it would be a disadvantage to their works that I should employ gunsmiths at Springfield, I would not have engaged a single man there, but he first suggested to me that he supposed I might employ a considerable number and recommended them by name.

I am, &c.

Nov. 13.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

James Carney, one of the masons who engaged to build the stone walls of the Manufactory of Arms, being in arrears to the Commonwealth, as was some time ago reported to you, now wishes to execute the stone work which may be wanting for said works, so as to reduce the debt.

He states that altho' the price at which he contracted to execute the work at the Manufactory of Arms was 16s. 3d. per perch, that the price for such work has risen considerably since the time of his contracting; that he is willing to execute any stone work now wanting, for 22s. 6d. per perch. He hopes you will not think it high when the price given Mr. Whitelaw for the stone walls of the Tobacco Warehouse is considered. That to enable him to perform the work, he says it will be indispensably necessary that he should be furnished with an advance of seventy dollars, and seventy more when the work is two-thirds done, for which money he says he will give security. Owing to the bad quality of the stone work executed at the above building by Mr. Carney, it will be necessary that some extra stone work should be done. If you should think proper to accede to his propositions, it will be proper that he should give security for the execution of the work as well as for the advances of money.

I am, &c.

Nov. 13.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have received your letter of the 16th inst. requesting me to report a statement of the duties of a clerk for the Manufactory of arms.

As the works will soon be put into operation, I deem it proper at this time to state to you the several duties of all the persons whose services will be necessarily required to assist the Superintendent in his various duties in conducting the operations therein.

At the Manufactory of Arms at Springfield, Massachusetts, where the number of artificers is not so great as it will be at our works, two master armourers, one chief clerk, one commissary, or store keeper, (who is some-

times called the issuing clerk,) and one machinist are found indispensably necessary to conduct the business to advantage. The same number and kind of assistants will I conceive be required at our works. 1801.

The duties of the Superintendent are to attend to and supervise the whole manufactory, and the artists employed therein, and everything appertaining to the business thereat. The duties of the master armourers, are constantly to attend to the artificers in each several branch while they are at work, to instruct them by precept and example as occasion may require, so as to have the work well and expeditiously executed, to inspect the various unfinished parts of arms as they are made by the workmen, and refuse such of them as are not well made: to see that each artificer keeps his tools, &c. in good repair and that he does not loose or abuse them, and that the workmen apply themselves diligently to the work. The master armourers should be active, impartial men, well skilled in the art of making with their own hands all the several parts of the arms to be manufactured.

The duties of the Chief Clerk are to keep a regular set of books, in which are to be registered accurate accounts of all and every transaction relative to the manufactory, such as the wages of the workmen, the work done by each of them, the quantity and price of all the various materials, provisions, &c., &c., so that at all times may be seen the amount of expenditures and of the work done, and a statement of the account of each person employed at the works.

The duties of the Commissary or Storekeeper are to receive, weigh, measure, and store all the various materials, provisions, &c., and issue them as they are necessarily required for the works, such as the issuing to each workman the iron, steel, coals, gun stocks, files, emery, oil, &c., &c., &c., necessary for his work; to barrel and store provisions, to issue each morning the rations for the day and see that their food is well cooked, and store the arms when finished.

The duties of the Machinist are to attend to all the machinery throughout the whole works and keep it in good repair, by renewing such parts as may be too much worn for service or that may get out of order.

The great responsibility attached to the office of Superintendent, requires that those persons who are to assist him in his various duties, should be well qualified for their several offices, in each of which they must necessarily conduct themselves by his directions in their several respective duties.

I am, &c.

Nov. 27.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeably to your instructions, I engaged when at Philadelphia the necessary Iron apparatus for cooking in our Penitentiary, and in order

1801. that it might be precisely like those in the State prison in that city (which have been proven to answer well), I engaged with Mr. Philip Edwards (the principal keeper of the State prison there) to have the wrought iron work made, and with Mr. George Crooks (who had the castings made for the grates, &c., of the State prison in Philadelphia at the works of Foxall & Richards on Schuylkill) for the necessary cast irons for the grates, &c., and with Mr. Elisha Fisher & Co., in Front street between Market and Arch streets, for two large kettles or boilers of the same size and quality of those now in use in the State prison at Philadelphia. The two kettles were at thirty dollars each, but neither Mr. Edwards nor Mr. Crooks could tell me the precise sum their work would cost until finished. Mr. Edwards supposed the whole would cost between one and two hundred dollars, including the sixty dollars for the two kettles.

Mr. Edwards and Mr. Crooks have made and lately sent their work to Richmond, but without a bill of costs, and the kettles yet remain there.

It will be proper, I conceive, to send immediately Two hundred Dollars to Gen'l Shee and request him to pay Mr. Edwards, Mr. Crooks, and Messrs. Fisher & Co. for their several articles, and get the favor of him to have the kettles sent to Richmond immediately, otherwise they may be sold to some other person, and it would be a very difficult matter to get others of the same kind and quality without importing them from Europe, and the overplus of the sum sent (if any) might be applied to payment for the arms making there.

I am, &c.

Nov. 28.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Being called upon by you to state the condition at this time of the Penitentiary house, or State Prison, and of the public Manufactory of Arms, I have to report as follows:

That all the brick work of the apartments of the Penitentiary designed for the confinement of criminals, and the galleries appertaining thereto, is finished. The whole are roofed, the floors laid, the interior of the walls ceiled with oak plank, the doors hung on their hinges and the windows grated.

Most of the various materials necessary for the completion of the building is provided, and I conceive there can be no doubt but that the whole building will be completed before the end of the ensuing year.

All the brick work of the apartments of the Manufactory of Arms in which small arms for Infantry and Cavalry are to be made, is finished. Most of the floors of these apartments are laid, all of them roofed, and the brick work of the kitchens and other offices is in considerable for-

wardness. The machinery necessary for the manufacture of small arms is nearly completed, and the whole of the works designed for that purpose are in such forwardness that I conceive a commencement of their manufacture will be made within two or three months from this time, and the whole of the works completed in the course of the ensuing year, most of the materials for which are already provided.

1801.

The apparatus, tools, &c., necessary for the manufacture of small arms are contracted for to be imported from England, some of which have arrived at this place, and the residue are expected shortly, and about seventy artificers are engaged to be employed in the manufactory as soon as the works are ready to receive them.

I regret that the execution of the work of those buildings has made no greater progress in the present year, owing to the failures of the contractors to furnish supplies of materials while I was absent in New England in quest of armourers to be employed in our manufactory, the circumstances relative to which I have reported to you in a former communication.

I, however, do not conceive any real injury will result to the Commonwealth from the delay, as the Penitentiary will now afford sufficient accommodation for a considerable number of criminals in addition to those now in confinement, and as the Manufactory of Arms will soon be in readiness to commence fully the operation of making small arms.

I am, &c.

Dec. 4.

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GEORGE WILLIAMSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have been informed that you have appointed me a Master Armourer in the public Armory, with a salary of two hundred pounds a year for my services.

I thank you for conferring the office on me, but the salary I find, from the best information, will be barely sufficient for house-rent and the support of my family in a plain manner. I have ever been desirous to be a Master Armourer in the public Armory, but justice to my family and myself forbids me to engage in a work where I am to be brought in debt at the close of the year. I have a great run of custom at my shop in the country, and being well known in the different counties, can sell more guns at the price of forty dollars than I could possibly make with ten hands. That business, as well as my other business at home, I must give up if I engage to be a Master Armourer.

The low salary allowed, I am confident, is owing to your not being acquainted with the business of master armourer, who must always be in place from daylight till bed time. You can hardly find a mechanic in any line of business who carries it on extensively, that does not make

1801. at least that sum. I well know I never cleared less by my business. It is well known that master armourers ought to be industrious men, of good character and great experience in the business, and that very few men can be found in the United States who are fit to be master armourers, but such as are really fit are generally not at a loss for good business.

I leave you to judge of my fitness, and only require such a compensation as I deserve. I wish you to consider what the expenses will be of supporting my family in Richmond and how much I must give for house rent and after that what will be left for my services.

I am, &c.

Dec. 8.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Finding that an opinion is lately circulated respecting the execution of the work of the Manufactory of arms, (to which object the attention of the Legislature is called,) calculated to make impressions on the public mind, unfavorable to my character as the architect and superintendent of that building, I have thought proper in justification of my conduct, to make the following statement of facts, in order to bring to the recollection of the Honorable the Executive, past occurrences, and to request them to state whether I have been blamable respecting the execution of said work.

The various work of the Manufactory of Arms is well executed excepting the stone work of the foundations thereof. The work in brick and in wood is generally supposed to be the best of their kind in Virginia.

As the circumstances relative to the execution of said stone work, happened before you became the Governor of the State, it is the more necessary that I should detail them to you at this time.

I doubt not but that it will be well recollected by the late Governor and those members of the Council who were in office at the time, that when Ninian Wise and James Carney undertook to execute the stone work of the Manufactory of Arms, Thomas Whitlaw (a stone mason celebrated for faithful execution of his work and in whom as a workman I had great confidence), was also a candidate for that work; that the terms proposed by Whitlaw for executing the said stone work, was at a rather higher price than the proposals of Wise and Carney, that being apprehensive that the Council might be inclined to accept the proposals of Carney and Wise, on account of their being cheaper than those of Whitlaw, I remonstrated with them against employing Wise and Carney. and stated to them that I did not wish to injure the interest of those workmen, but that my duty required that I should inform them that I could not confide in those men to execute the work, that while my workmen were building the machinery of David Ross' mills in this city, Mr.

Wise (the best workman of the two) was employed to execute the stone work thereof, and that one of the walls built by him fell before it was carried to its height.

1801.

After stating my reasons for a preference in favor of Whitelaw and against Wise & Carney being employed, I retired, and at the rising of the board was informed that the Executive had closed with the proposals of Carney & Wise. There can be no doubt in this case but that the Executive were governed by a wish to save expense by employing those men whose terms were cheapest, but it is evident that Whitelaw is the best workman of the three and much the most to be depended on. I shortly after set Wise & Carney to work on the foundation walls of the west wing of the building, and attended to them at every opportunity that my other numerous avocations in the public service allowed me, and it must be recollected that I had to perform the duty of four persons—viz., Architect and Superintendent of Penitentiary building in place of Mr. Latrobe and Mr. Callis, and the business to execute in similar offices at the Manufactory of arms. When the various duties of the day are enumerated—when it is considered that I have to ascertain the size and quantity of all the various materials required in each branch of the work at both the Manufactory of Arms and Penitentiary, attend to their delivery and inspect their quality, to furnish drawings and directions for the execution of the numerous kinds of work at both those buildings, measure the work and keep a separate account of the transactions of each individual so as to know the amount of their claims upon the public—I repeat, that when all those numerous duties which are constantly occurring are considered, it cannot be supposed that I could pay constant attention to the workmen engaged in any one branch of the various kinds of works when they all required an equal share of my attention. I could not, therefore, be constantly with Carney & Wise while they were at work, but my attention was as much applied to their work as was in my power, and as much to the work of others, and perhaps more, while attending to so many other objects. It is well known to the workmen at the armory that I have frequently with my own hands pulled down parts of their defective stone work, and repeatedly notified them that I should condemn their work on account of its bad quality, and I am conscious that I have done everything in my power to have that stone work faithfully executed.

When they had nearly finished the walls of that wing, the defects of the work became visible as the weight was increased. I stopped them from going on with the work, and condemned it to be taken down as being in my opinion unfit for the purpose. Wise & Carney observed that the work was well executed, and said that as Whitelaw was not employed by the Executive to execute the work as I had wished, and that the Executive had given them the work contrary to my advice, they

1801. said I was prejudiced against them, and that I did not intend to do them justice by wishing to have their work taken down and prevent their being paid for their labour, and said they must appeal to the Executive.

These suggestions induced me to request of Governor Wood that a committee of the Council might examine the work which I had condemned, and determine whether it should be taken down or not. Accordingly four members of the Council were deputed, who met Mr. Wise and Mr. Carney and myself at the armory. I shewed them the work and explained to them its defects. It is evident that those gentlemen were anxious to do strict justice to the Commonwealth and to Wise and Carney. They saw and were convinced of the imperfection of the work, but being desirous that the building should not be retarded in its progress by taking down the walls, were desirous of knowing whether it could be supported in a substantial manner so as to answer the purpose. I mentioned that I could support a wall of sand by building walls around to support it, but that I did not think the work sufficiently strong as it then stood, or I should not then have called their attention to it, and that if abutments were built to support it, they would give a bad appearance to the building. The deputation from the Council asked me if I thought it could be supported by abutments. I told them it could, and described the kind I thought most proper.

Carney & Wise observed that it would ruin them if their work was taken down and that they had not the ability to rebuild it. The gentlemen of the Council at length directed me to have the abutments built to support the walls, and told Carney and Wise that in future, that if they did not execute their work better, that they would shew them no indulgence. I accordingly had the abutments built, and the walls have not given way since those abutments were erected and settled to them.

Those workmen were shortly afterwards set to work on the stone walls of the opposite wing of the building, and in the progress of that work also similar defects occurred, proceeding from similar causes, viz: the bad fitting of the stones.

You, sir, had then come into the office of Governor, and I wrote to you an account of the transactions relative to said stone work, stating its defects, in consequence of which the Executive, who being desirous of calling in the judgment of men experienced in such work, appointed two disinterested men, Nathaniel Quarles and Jesse Bowles, who were supposed to be the best judges of such work in this part of the State, to examine the work and report whether it should be taken down or not, and that if in their opinion it should not be taken down, and as it was inferior to the quality stipulated in the contract for that work, that they should say how much Wise and Carney ought to receive as compensation less than their contract specified. Those referees met as required, and reported to the Executive that they had examined and measured the said



work; that they did not think it ought to be taken down, as they thought it might be secured by abutments, and stated in their report the compensation which they thought ought to be paid for the work less than their contract had stipulated. In consequence of which report, Carney was brought in debt to the Commonwealth, and I have understood that the Executive have ordered a suit against him for its recovery.

1801.

It is my opinion, as well as the opinion of the best judges of such work, that the walls are in no danger of falling, but as it will give them additional security and strength, and to satisfy even those who are not judges, I request that the size and number of abutments may be increased to such a degree as will be sufficient to convince all persons that the walls may be secure, altho' badly built at first.

The other parts of the work, in brick, wood, and iron, I invite and request all persons who are judges to point out the defects. I am well aware that the opinion of a single individual (even if he is not a judge of the subject) when in universal circulation, may make impressions which might be attended with injurious consequences and require much trouble to remove. In the present instance, I conceive it to be my duty to counteract or remove those impressions, which certainly have a tendency to injure me. In the course of my transactions I have endeavored to support a reputation infinitely more dear to me than life, and at this time I sensibly feel the pain of being blamed, well knowing it is without cause. Conscious of having discharged my duty in the several offices to which I have been called by the Executive, to them therefore I look for that protection which my character as an architect and conduct in that capacity deserves, and have to request from them a statement respecting my conduct in the public service, and particularly that part of it which respects the execution of the work of the Manufactory of Arms, which I wish to be made known to the Legislature and the public.

I am, &c.

Dec. 23.

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ARCHIBALD ROANE (GOVERNOR) TO THE GOVERNOR.

Enclosing a copy of an Act of the Legislature of Tennessee, relating to the establishment of the boundary line between the State of Tennessee and Virginia. Suggesting the middle of March as the most suitable time for the Commissioners to commence work on the eastern extremity of the disputed line.

Nov. 25.

Knoxville, Tenn.

## JOHN F. MERCER (GOVERNOR) TO THE GOVERNOR.

1801. Enclosing copy of a law passed by the Legislature of the State of Maryland respecting the Turnpike Road proposed to be established on the Western frontier of said State.

Also, a resolution of the same for ascertaining the Western and Southern boundary lines between Maryland and Virginia. Informing that the State of Maryland had already appointed Gabriel Duval, John McDowell, and Roger Nelson, Esquires, Commissioners on her part for the discharge of this duty. Asking to be informed of the result of the action of Virginia on this subject.

Dec. 31.

Annapolis.

## J. B. SOUTHALL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your communication of the 18th inst. I received this morning, by which I learn with pleasure that my conduct respecting the negro Sam committed to the jail of this county by me, has met the approbation of the Executive.

My object in committing the fellow was not influenced (as you seem to have understood) by any consideration of his being guilty of any overt act having a tendency to excite insurrection, but by an impression that the 4th Section of the law passed the 21st of January, 1801, respecting "Slaves, free negroes and mulattoes," completely embraced his case, and the Executive alone (after his commission) could take cognizance of it. If the fellow has been guilty of any such offences, the obtention of proof to establish them would be I believe impossible, and the only offence which he has committed that has come to my information, consisted in insinuation and inuendo, calculated to excite discontent and consequent inflammation in the minds of the negroes, whose disposition already maturing for the perpetration of any crime, may terminate in fatal eventuation.

He is an extremely artful and base fellow, and as he confesses I believe there can be no doubt but he belongs to the gentleman in St. Croix. Capt. Knight of Norfolk who says he knows the fellow and his master too, will I understand, sail in six or eight weeks to this island, and is disposed to take him with him provided he can obtain compensation.

It appears to me that this fellow's case comes within the contemplation of the law, which requires the transportation of slaves who have been brought or have come into this Commonwealth.

However, the circumstances of his situation is in the possession of the Executive, and to their decision it is submitted.

This fellow was originally sold out of this State for his flagitiousness

and rascality, and if he was then considered a dangerous fellow, he now must be more so since our situation has become more hazardous and critical: as it is probable he may escape, and considering him dangerous, and the opportunity which offers for his transportation by Capt. Knight, I think the sooner steps are taken to effectuate that end (if it's deemed proper) the better.

I am, &c.

August 20.

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*Papers Relative to an Apprehended Insurrection of the Negroes of Nottoway County in the Year 1801.*

JAMES FLETCHER TO B. EDWARDS OR N. FRIEND, PETERSBURG.

I make use of the opportunity to inform you we are threatened by the negroes on Thursday next with an insurrection. We have been trying for several days and nights to get such negroes as we have proof against, but have only got about eight that we can prove guilty, which will have their trial next Thursday. I was out best part of the last night with a negro who told me he was concerned in the plot, and that it would certainly be put in execution on Thursday next. He went so far as to name the officers in his neighborhood and the place they were to meet, which was at Mr. John Royal's.

From there they intend to go to the Burnt Ordinary, where he says they expect to meet several hundred, and from that to Petersburg, where he says the officers told him they would be safe, as that Town would be in possession of the blacks by the time they got there, and then they could get guns and ammunition to carry them where they pleased.

I don't know I make use of the precise words, but the full substance of the business I have given you, and I think you had better make it as publick as possible, at least in Petersburg and Richmond. Excuse bad riting, &c., as I do it in haste and confusion.

I am, &c.

Jan'y 1.

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CREED TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having seen in the hands of Major Quarrier the other evening, some documents sent to you by the Mayor of Petersburg on the subject of a supposed insurrection of the negroes in the county of Nottoway, I take the liberty now to state that Capt. Thomas Eppes, a member of the House of Delegates, has just arrived from thence, and says altho' there are six or seven in Nottoway jail, they are there on very slight suspicion, and he does — suppose that nothing material will appear against them

1801. on their trial, which is to take place this day, and that it produces little or no alarm in that quarter. I am induced to make this communication to counteract the force of any which may have been made in consequence of a report which reached this place last evening of a large number being in Amelia jail as well as Nottoway, and that a number of arms were also discovered.

I am, &c.

Jan'y 1.

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G. GREEN TO WILLIAM PRENTIS OR JAMES DRUELL, PETERSBURG.

There does not remain a doubt but that a general insurrection of the negroes is intended on the next Thursday night. Their plan has been discovered here by accident. I have a fellow who was in Petersburg two days of the Christmas. He tells me he heard the subject spoken of very freely by several negroes of Petersburg, but that they were unknown to him.

Petersburg is the place of general rendezvous, and an assassination of all its white inhabitants is intended; they do not intend to spare even the helpless infants.

I am, &c.

Jan'y 2.

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RICHARD JONES TO WILLIAM PRENTIS.

As I conceive it a duty incumbent on me to communicate to my fellow-citizens any pending dangers with which they are threatened, I take this opportunity by the post to inform you that an intended insurrection of the negroes in this county is discovered, and from which they are in conspiracy with those from this to and in the town of Petersburg. We have here been very assiduous since Monday, but find much difficulty in discovering their full designs, tho' have so far succeeded as to find that on Thursday next at night they were to commence the business by collecting in large bodies in different places and proceeding immediately to Petersburg (killing and robbing as they went), and to join those that may be there embodied, from whom they expect to be furnished with arms and ammunition, so as to be fully equipped with what they get from the country inhabitants as they move on to the general rendezvous.

These are the most material parts of the discoveries we have as yet made, and which I think your town very deeply interested in. You will therefore make any use of it you think most advantageous to the safety thereof. I do not think the conspiracy at this time of a very alarming nature, as the discovery of it in so early a stage, will prevent the plan

being attempted in this county, tho' sufficiently so to require the strictest attention of the inhabitants of the town and every exertion of them to bring as many of the ringleaders as possible to condign punishment. We have at present five (and among them Bob, an intended General, the property of Mr. John Royal, of this neighborhood) in our goal, and hourly expect more.

1801.

No discovery as yet has been made by us as to any particular negroes in or about Petersburg, but should we make any such, the town shall receive the earliest information thereof.

January 2.

I am, &amp;c.

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EDMUND STONE TO BATHURST CLAIBORNE.

I was informed by letter from Capt. Harrison to Mr. Peebles, that it was expected that the negroes were to rise to-night or to-morrow night. Capt. Wyche sent Capt. Harrison word, and also sent to Southampton to know if the news was true, and had for answer that it was certainly true, for the whites were gathering fast, and there were already five hundred under arms. It will be best for everybody to be on the lookout.

February 14.

I am, &amp;c.

---

Last night my white family, which lodged up stairs, were alarmed by a number of negro men going round and about the house great part of the night. No information of this was given to me last night by my white family above stairs.

This morning I was taken by a mulatto servant girl of mine into the dining-room, who told me that the negroes were about to do mischief to the whites. That my man Tom was overheard by her to be talking with some negroes behind the house. That she knew Tom's voice, but to be certain it was him she looked out and found it to be the case. That in a short time about six negro men came up to Tom, when they asked Tom who lived here. Tom replied that this was our house. "Are the other lads coming?" "Yes," replied the negroes, "they are, by God." "Well," says Tom, "that will do." The mulatto woman says that one or two proposed putting the thing off till next Saturday night, but that she could not understand the result, as they spoke low. She further says that she heard Tom say in the course of the last week, that the insurrection was not done with—that more would be heard of it in a few days. She also says that all the negroes about my house last evening and Tom also, had weapons in their hands, which she thought were swords.

W. CLAIBORNE.

15th February, 1801.

## WM. BALL TO THE GOVERNOR.

1801. Agreeable to your request p'r letter, I have waited on Mr. Claiborne for information in writing respecting the conversation, &c., which was heard last night near his house between a parcel of negroes which he has stated and which is herein inclosed. The negroes which you mentioned in yours of Mr. Claiborne's, which you wish taken in custody for the purpose of endeavoring to get some further information, is not at home at present: he is at this time in Richmond with Mrs. Claiborne with the carriage, and so soon as he returns, I shall pursue the carriage to Mr. Claiborne's and take him in custody, and have him immediately conveyed to your presence.

I shall attend to your other instructions respecting the patroles during the night; also to secure all those negroes which we can get hold of whom we can get the smallest information against.

I am, &c.

Feb. 15.

## JAMES MADISON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1802.  
Jan. 2,  
Department  
of State I beg leave to enclose you a complaint transmitted to this Department by the agent of the U. States at Jamaica, of certain frauds in the case of flour shipped to that island.

As the facts stated have reference to places within the State of Virginia, it is thought most proper to communicate them to you who will be best able to decide the manner and measures of enquiry due to the subject.

I am, &c.

## PETITION OF JOSEPH JACKSON TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

Jan. 2,  
Auditor's  
Office The petition of Joseph Jackson humbly sheweth: That your petitioner when appointed Clerk of Accounts in the Auditor's Office in the year 1796, through the kind interference of John Pendleton, Esq'r, got your petitioners salary fixed by your honorable Board the same as Hans Heitman's salary, former clerk of accounts, for doing the same business (which, on examination, your petitioner flatters himself will bear a comparison with either his or any other books in the Auditor's office). Ever since the year 1796 your petitioner has had a separate and distinct business to attend to in addition.

The Militia Fines have been directed to the Auditor's office for settlement. Your petitioner has the vouchers to examine, to grant receipts,

specifying the insolvents, and claims to keep a separate ledger for them, in order to keep them distinct from the other branches of the revenue. For performing this business your petitioner humbly conceives himself justly entitled to some compensation, and if your honorable board will condescend to look at the vouchers and books of accounts kept by your petitioner for that purpose, whatever they in their wisdom will allow your petitioner, he will be in duty bound to pray, &c., &c.

1802.  
Jan. 2,  
Auditor's  
Office

WM. NEWSUM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Solicits the office of Notary Public in Norfolk for Dangerfield Stark, in lieu of Thomas Newton, elected to Congress.

Jan. 2,  
Richmond

TO THE GOVERNOR.

You had better if you think proper, to order the Petersburg and Prince George Light Horse out on this alarming occasion of the negroes rising on Thursday next. It is a thing of too much importance to be lightly thought of, and I hope the Assembly in their wisdom will fall on some plan to put the minds of the people more at ease.

Jan. 2,  
Petersburg

I can inform you, sir, there is great danger.

I am yours, with respect, and also my master's faithful servant until death.

WILLIAM PRÉNTIS, MAYOR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

I do myself the honor of enclosing to you a letter received by me yesterday evening from a merchant of this town, and which came directed to him, as will appear by the letter.

Jan. 3,  
Petersburg

The gentleman of whom I received it, Mr. N. Friend, assures me that Mr. James Fletcher is a person to be relied on and not a timid character. What confidence you will place in this intelligence is not for me to judge, but I conceived it my duty to furnish you with it that you might act on the occasion as you think proper.

I am, &c.

It has been suggested that a small number of men placed in this town and Richmond, to act as circumstances should require, would be advisable. I beg leave to submit it to your consideration, and have also to request that you will inform me by the mail to-morrow, what steps you would think most advisable should you believe the information herewith enclosed to be correct.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1802.  
Jan. 4

Agreeably to your request, I submit an estimate of the probable expence which will be incurred in the completion of the Manufactory of Arms and Penitentiary, as also the sum which will be necessary for the purchase of tools for the Manufactory of arms and for the pay and support of the men employed in the manufactory, and purchase of materials for a year.

To complete the manufactory of arms, including the work in brick, wood, and Iron, it will, I presume, require about twenty-one thousand dollars. I presented you a statement during the last session of the General Assembly of the amount which I thought would be necessary to complete the building from the state in which it then was, amounting to £9,528.11. Since that time considerable sums have been charged to the account of this building, which were not expended in the erection of the work, which object alone was contemplated in that estimate. Two thousand Dollars paid for tools and apparatus for carrying on the work after the building is completed, and a considerable sum paid for digging and removing of the earth in the way of building, with many other expenditures, the documents respecting which are in your possession, are examples of such charges. It is proper to observe that the expence incurred in removing earth was found to be much greater than was expected, owing to the rocks and other obstructions which were in the way.

The sum necessary to complete the Penitentiary will, it is presumed, amount to about nineteen thousand four hundred Dollars. This estimate is as correct as it is in my power to make it from the data in my possession. The erection of buildings for such important purposes and of such extent will unavoidably cost great sums, which no precaution can prevent.

The erection of them in this city, where most of the articles bear the highest price, will cost much more than if it were done in the interior of the country; in addition to which, it is proper to observe that in such great undertakings, contingent expenses often occur which it is impossible to foresee or provide for. The sum requisite for the purchase of tools, is estimated at about seven thousand dollars; this comprises all the tools and apparatus necessary for carrying on the work of the several branches of the manufacture of arms, including musketry, swords, pistols, &c. A contract is formed by the Executive with a Mr. Hodgson, of England, for the importation of these articles from Birmingham, according to a list furnished him, for which he is to receive ten per cent'm on the costs, &c., the Commonwealth paying the price, freight, &c.; part of these are already received, on which acc't 2,000 dollars are paid.

For the purchase of materials, the pay and rations of the men em-



ployed in the Manufactory, including the salary of the Superintendent, two master armourers, clerks, &c., and one hundred and fifty artists, it is supposed the annual expenditure will amount to fifty-eight thousand dollars.

1802.  
Jan. 4

At present not more than about one-half that number are engaged, who were contracted for to the eastward in a trip I took this summer through the Eastern States by your order for the purpose. These are artists of great experience and skill, whose pay commences when they are called into service and not before. As the institution is new in our country, and very few of our citizens are acquainted with the art of making arms, it is necessary to draw from other quarters those who have skill and experience in the business. On that account the charge will be greater in the commencement, as such persons will emigrate with reluctance and not without expense. But after the institution is well established, and our own citizens become acquainted with the art, the expense will of course diminish.

The work will (I expect) be commenced in about two months and carried on, if the Government permits, on the most extensive scale that a due regard to economy and other circumstances will justify. It is expected that about seven thousand stands of arms will be made at the manufactory when the whole number of workmen are employed in it, besides arms for the cavalry. On this subject I beg to refer you to my letters of the 27th of November and 4th of December last for further information.

I am persuaded that the Manufactory of Arms will prove a useful and economic institution. The plan was formed by myself on a view of every similar institution of note in the United States and the advice of their most experienced men, and I have since bestowed the whole force of my mind and industry in the construction of it. I have invariably acted under the inspection and in obedience to the orders of the Executive, from which I never deviated.

I have at all times been willing, indeed desirous, that the plan of the building, with the progress and execution of the work, should be examined by the members of the Legislature, to whom I should be happy to give all the information in my power on any point on which it might be desired.

With respect to the Penitentiary, I have to observe that it is well known to the Executive that I was not the author of the plan, but was called in to execute that of another after the work had been considerably advanced. Mr. Latrobe was the Architect, during whose agency the office of Superintendent, which was a distinct one, was committed to Mr. Callis. These two offices were united in me in addition to the charge of the Manufactory of Arms, with which I was already interested. At that stage I proposed some deviation from the plan in the construction of cells,

1802.  
Jan. 4

the Keeper's house, partition walls, and other inferior objects, with a view to promote the health, comfort, and security of the prisoners, which it is presumed produced the desired effect. In a former letter, I had the pleasure to assure you that I had no doubt that both the buildings would be finished in the course of the present year.

I am, &c.

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WILLIAM PRENTIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 4,  
Petersburg

I yesterday enclosed you a letter by Dr. McCaw from a Mr. Fletcher, of Nottoway concerning some suspicions of an intention in the negroes to revolt. Since which I have just received the one I now send you, believing it to be proper to communicate to you every information on the subject.

I hope, sir, that by to-morrow's mail you will advise what had best be done. Since writing the above, I have opened another letter, which I also enclose you. from Major Richard Jones.

I am, &c.

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WM. PRENTIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 5,  
Petersburg

I received your letter by this day's mail, previous to which the Patrols were out regularly since Sunday, and will continue on duty during this week.

We are however much at a loss for powder and ball; there being none here except powder, and that is private property. There is a very good field piece in town belonging to the Artillery Company, but they complain much for the want of ammunition, and the Captain has requested me to solicit you to deposit here a few grape shot or bullets and powder to be used in case of emergency.

We feel much the want of a field officer or some person within the town to superintend and direct in case of alarms—there is no such person in this town or neighborhood at present, and everything is in a measure in confusion on that account, and would perhaps be attended with fatal consequences, was an insurrection absolutely to commence and make a stand.

The people however are willing to act in any manner that may appear beneficial, but would be much better satisfied to have some person with them clothed with proper authority.

I am, &c.

The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To John Newell,

Dr.

To hauling 9 cannon from Taylor's Ferry to Richmond of the following weights:

1802.  
Jan. 5

1. 4,960 lbs.; 2. 5,360 lbs.; 3. 6,040 lbs.; 4. 4,525 lbs.; 5. 4,481 lbs.;
6. 4,420 lbs.; 7. 5,840 lbs.; 8. 5,400 lbs.; 9. 5,140 lbs., £78.12.0

I have rece'd the above guns on the Capitol Square.

ALEX'R QUARRIER.

IN THE SENATE.

The House, in conjunction with the House of Delegates, proceeded in the usual form to the election of a Treasurer of the Commonwealth for one year.

Jan. 5

Upon counting the ballots, the majority of votes were found in favor of William Berkeley.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

It is now necessary that some of the apparatus for the Manufactory of Arms should be fixed up and the Iron work necessary therefor made; for which purpose I think it would be proper that one Master Armorer (George Williamson) should attend to that business.

Jan. 6

As it is now the season for procuring pork, I submit to your consideration whether or not it would be proper to purchase a supply of that article for the support of the artists who are to be employed in the Manufactory of Arms.

I am, &c.

The official Bond of William Berkeley as Treasurer of the Commonwealth, in the penalty of One Million of Dollars, with William Randolph, Lewis Berkeley, John Pendleton, and William Hickman, on file.

Jan. 6

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer appointed and held for Nottoway County, on the Thursday the 7th of January, 1802, for the trial of Joe, negro man slave belonging to the Estate of Batt Jones dece'd, and also for the trial of Bob, negro man slave the property of John Royall, both on suspicion of advising, consulting and conspiring a rebellion and insurrection of the slaves of this State, against the white inhabitants thereof,

Jan. 7

1802.  
Jan. 7

or advising or consulting the murder of John Royall's white family of said County.

Both prisoners were brought separately to the bar, there arraigned upon the charges mentioned, and had counsel assigned them by the Court.

Sundry witnesses being charged, were examined and the counsel heard, upon consideration the Court are unanimous that both the prisoners are guilty as charged in the indictments, and that they be hanged on Saturday the 16th instant until they be dead.

*Testimony in Joe's case.*

Hampton, a negro man slave the property of Robert Jones, being charged as the law directs, says that about a week before Christmas last, the aforesaid negro man Joe met with him and asked him if he intended to do what he and Bob had talked of the other night, he answered he did. Joe then replied that if he did they would be better off than they were, that the white people had so much more liberty than they had, that they could not do as they pleased unless the white people were destroyed, and some short time after that he went with the said Joe and Bob together, Joe then asked him if he was of the same mind as he was when they talked together before to destroy the white people; he answered that if he could go on without being hurt he would. Joe then said he was determined to go on with it, and he further said that he was one of the soldiers, and that they were to begin at John Royall's and kill him and all his white family, and that they were to go on from thence to the Burnt Ordinary and kill and cripple all the white people before them.

Ned, a negro man slave the property of Capt. Grief Green, being charged as the law directs and examined, says, that he was in the town of Petersburg on Christmas day last, and heard three negroes unknown to him who were walking the street together; say that they intended to kill and cripple all the white people as they went, and that they would get arms in Petersburg, and that on Thursday night after Christmas last they were to begin; that on the next day as he came out of Petersburg, he met a negro man who told him he belonged to Verrell, who said he was going to ask him a question, would he join him in it; the witness asked him what was it, he said he wished him to join him and help him to kill all the white people; he refused to join him, and then said rather than miss he would give him four dollars; that the time appointed was Thursday after Christmas, and that the place they were to meet was in Petersburg, and that he was to get his arms from there.

Willis Pillar, being sworn and examined, says that on the last evening while he was guarding the prisoners in jail, he heard the said Joe say that he would not be in jail the next morning. He also says that Bob observed to Joe that it was the Patrollers that had caught them in the

business, and that he had told York and Brister that it would come to this; and that the subject of their conversation was the insurrection.

1802.  
Jan. 7

John Royall, being sworn and examined, says that he had a fellow named Bristow; that there was a negro man named York who had a wife at his house, and that there was a young fellow belonging to Pryor named Brister, who frequented his house.

*Testimony in Trial of Bob.*

Hampton, negro man slave, property of Robert Jones, gave substantially the same evidence as in Joe's case, with the addition that he (Bob) was to be a General; that Mrs. Jones' May would be another General, and Mr. Fletcher's Paul a Captain.

Ned, a negro man slave, the property of Capt. Grief Green, being charged and examined, says that he was in the Town of Petersburg on last Christmas day and heard three negroes (unknown to him), walking the street together, say that they intended to kill and cripple all the white people as they went, and that they would get arms in Petersburg; that on Thursday night after Christmas last, they were to begin; that on the next day as he came from Petersburg he met a negro man, who told him he belonged to Verrell, who said he was going to ask him a question, would he join him in it; the witness asked him what was it; he said he wished him to join him and help him kill all the white people. He refused to join him; and the man then said rather than miss he would give him four dollars, that the time appointed was Thursday after Christmas, and that the place they were to meet was in Petersburg, and that he was to get his arms from there.

Signed by

FREEMAN EPES,  
JAMES DUPUY, JR.,  
AB. HATCHETT,  
JAMES JONES,  
JOHN EPES.

Certified by Thomas W. Todd, D. C. N. C.

W. HETH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking that the meeting of the Cincinnati be postponed for one week.

Jan. 13,  
Petersburg

JOHN A. ROBERTSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having made an application last evening in behalf of Mrs. Jones and Mr. Royall, of Nottoway, praying a pardon for their slaves under sentence of death, and it now being almost *the last moment* from which a

Jan. 15

1802.  
Jan. 15      notification of Executive measures could be forwarded to the place of execution, I take the earliest opportunity this morning of repeating that application, which from its nature I hope will be immediately acted on, and in case a pardon should not be obtained, a respite for eight or ten days would answer the expectation of the owners, until the sense of the neighborhood could be had on the subject.

I am, &c.

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FRANK GOODE (NEGRO) TO ROLING POINTER, POWHATAN.

Jan. 18      Mr. Jacob Martin, my friend, be true and faithful to your trust; get your weapons all ready against the night appointed. Our travelling friend has got ten thousand in readiness to the night. You neede not be afraid to tell our friend, Pointer, anything you want me to no; he will bring it safe to me. You will tell Capt. Saunders I must see him in the course of a week, is I may give him information how to do. We have agreed to begin at Jude's Ferry and put to death every man on both sides of the river to Richmond, and I think we will get a Bundance of money and also men enuf — destroy Richmond when joined to the army that will meet us there on the appointed time.

I am your aid and assistance.

---

THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 19,  
Norfolk      Informing of the shipment of negro Sam'l Brown (on board a Danish vessel), ordered for transportation by the Governor to St. Croix. The said negro said to belong to Mr. Elmore, living at Fregut, on that Island. Passage paid, twelve dollars.

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FRANK CARN TO WM. WIRT.

Jan. 19,  
Williams-  
burg      That every one may know and be informed of a circumstance which equally concerns every citizen of Virginia is the principal motive which urges me to write you this letter. The citizens of this place received such information yesterday as to leave no room to doubt but that an insurrection of the negroes would shortly take place in this town. Accordingly the town hall met and adopted such measures as the urgency of the occasion would permit, tho' by no means adequate prevention even the most partial of the consequences which would inevitably result from such an event.

A patrol of six were ordered out whose only object was to give an alarm in case the insurrection actually took place. And what possible end would it answer merely to give an alarm when there is scarcely a possibility of an individuals escaping, and where to attempt a defence would be only the unavailing effort of despair.

1802.  
Jan. 19,  
Williams-  
burg.

Without arms, without the means wherewith to make even a show of defence, what could the citizens of this place do, lulled as they are in an inglorious apathy, and dead to every sense of danger which so eminently threatens them? I do not believe there are twenty stand of arms in the place, and notwithstanding that the inhabitants make no exertions to obtain them no preparations for defence.

The grounds on which this letter is written are the most explicit and undoubted. They are chiefly conversations overheard between negroes, and one of them addressed Thomas W. Maury in the street yesterday evening in a conversation which left not even the smallest grounds for doubting that an insurrection was in agitation.

I am, &c.

---

HORATIO TURPIN TO THE GOVERNOR.

From several corroborative circumstances which have lately transpired, I am inclined to believe that there is another insurrection in contemplation by the negroes in this neighborhood shortly.

Jan. 22,  
Powhatan

Major Harris's overseer, out late a few nights past, overheard the latter part of a conversation between two of his negro men. The subject was not immediately mentioned, but from what he heard, it was not sufficient to determine.

One of them observed that the event would shortly take place; the other answered that it would certainly take place very shortly, and would create a great change in affairs. The Patrol was out on Saturday night last past, and was abused and insulted by a negro man, likewise in this neighborhood, who told them they had already been permitted to go on too long but that it should not be long before a stop should be put to them; and other instances of insolence of the same nature has lately taken place. I have thought it advisable to transmit this information as soon as possible, that you might make such arrangements as you might think most advisable.

I am, &c.

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Certificate of John Timberlake, Clerk of County Court of Fluvanna, that James Payne, appointed Sheriff of Fluvanna, failed to give bond and security within two months of time of appointment, according to law.

1802.	A bill of Fenton & Cochran, of New Haven, for three Bells manufactured by them, ordered for the Capitol, Manufactory of Arms, and Penitentiary, viz:									
Jan. 25	1 Bell, weighing 588, at 2s. 4d. per lb.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£68.12.0
	1 do. do. 427, at 2s. 4d. per lb.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49.16.4
	1 do. do. 68, at 3s. per lb.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.04.0
	1 Tongue, weighing 19½, at 2s. 4d. per lb.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.05.6
	1 do. do. 16½, at 2s. 4d. per lb.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.18.6
	1 do. do. 4, at 3s.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.0
										£133.08.4

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JOS. MARTIN AND CREED TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 26 Col. Moore, who was one of the Commissioners appointed to settle the boundary line with the State of Tennessee, has accepted a commission under the United States as Marshal of the Western District, hence a vacancy in the appointment for adjusting the above line, and as it devolves on the Executive to supply that vacancy, we take the liberty to submit it to their consideration, and have only to add that if it could be now supplied, it would afford some convenience to us in opening a correspondence on that subject.

We have the honor, &c.

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IN THE SENATE,  
Wednesday, *January 27th, 1802.*

Jan. 27 The House proceeded by joint ballot with the House of Delegates to the choice of a Judge of the District Court of Chancery to be held at the town of Staunton according to the usual form.

Upon an examination of the ballot boxes, it was found that a majority of votes were in favor of John Brown, Esq.

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IN THE SENATE,  
Thursday, *January 28th, 1802.*

Jan. 28 The House proceeded by joint ballot with the House of Delegates to the choice of a Judge of the District Court of Chancery to be holden in the City of Williamsburg according to the usual form.

Upon an examination of the ballot boxes, it was found that a majority of votes were in favour of William Wirt, Esquire.



THOS. H. BAYLY TO THE GOVERNOR.

In the county of Accomac a troop of Cavalry has lately been raised, under the command of Capt. Revell. This troop, though very desirous to equip themselves, have not been able to accomplish it, and are now very deficient in swords, pistols, &c.

1802.  
Jan. 30.  
Richmond

I persuade myself that when the Executive view our situation, they will not neglect furnishing this troop of Cavalry completely.

Our county is long and narrow, open to attack on every point, and our internal enemy are numerous on that shore, and should an insurrection take place, this troop will be of great advantage, as they would move rapidly. As we could expect no assistance from our fellow-citizens on this shore in case of emergency, we ought to be favored with arms, for as yet we have been neglected. When many of the towns in this State were armed by the late law, the Eastern Shore, requiring it more than many, were refused.

I will thank you, sir, to communicate the above to the Council of State, that they may in their wisdom do what is right.

I am, &c.

THOMAS H. BAYLY TO THE GOVERNOR.

I am requested to state to your consideration that there now resides in the County of Accomac four old native Indians that require support from some source. The overseers of the poor in that county believe that they have no power to grant them assistance, and as yet they have been supported by private subscriptions. If the Executive should think that they have power to make any allowance, I am sure it will be properly exercised upon those objects of charity.

A man, one of the tribe, now waits in Richmond, and can be examined for your determination, and having requested me to make this communication, which it is my duty to do.

I am, &c.

MOSES GREER TO THE GOVERNOR.

A resolution has passed the General Assembly authorizing the Executive to appoint commissioners for the purpose of establishing the Western Boundary Line between this State and the State of Maryland.

Feb. 1,  
Richmond

If your Excellency and the Council of State should think me a proper person to act as one of the Commissioners, I shall think myself highly honored by such appointment.

I have the honor to be, &c.

## JOHN PRUNTY TO THE GOVERNOR.

1802.  
Feb. 2

Solicits appointment as commissioner for running the Boundary Line with Maryland, and recommending Col. William John, of Monongalia, as co-commissioner, and George Arnald, of Harrison, as surveyor for same.

## RICHARD ADAMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 2,  
Richmond

Agreeable to the orders of the Mayor of the city of Richmond, there has been a Patroll kept up from the nineteenth Regiment. There appears to be ammunition wanting for that purpose. I make free now to request you to inform me how it is to be had occasionally, and that Joshua West, Quartermaster to said Regiment, should be now supplied with three hundred cartridges and one hundred flints.

I am, &c.

## ARMISTEAD MONTAGUE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 4,  
Cartersville

Asking to be supplied with copy of the Inspection Laws for the use of Woodson's Warehouse Inspectors.

## WILLIAM CARTER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 5,  
Richmond

Soliciting appointment as Surgeon to the Penitentiary and Barracks.

## T. H. FOUSHER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 6,  
Richmond

Soliciting appointment as Surgeon at the Penitentiary.

Feb. 9

At a Court held for Caroline County at the Courthouse on the 9th day of February, 1802.

It is ordered to be certified to His Excellency the Governor and Council, that Elizabeth Carr, Patty Rose and Richard Riddle who have heretofore been allowed pensions, are still alive and that the causes for continuance of their respective allowances are not removed.

Teste:

JOHN PENDLETON, JR., D. C.

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer held for the County of Brunswick, on the third day of February, 1802, for the trial of a negro man slave Phil, the property of Randolph Hagood of Brunswick County.

1802.  
Feb. 11

Present: John Stith, Theophilus Field, Abner Brown, David Meade and Griffin Stith. Gentleman, Justices.

The Court being thus constituted, proceeded to the examination of Phil, negro man slave belonging to Randolph Hagood of the County of Brunswick, on the charge of making insurrection against the Commonwealth, and of conspiring and plotting the murder of the said Randolph Hagood. Divers witnesses being sworn and examined, and the prisoner heard by his counsel in his own defence; on mature consideration the opinion of the Court was that the said Phil was guilty of the charge set forth in the indictment, and ordered that the said Phil be hanged on Friday the 12th day of February, 1802.

*Testimony adduced in the trial of Phil.*

George, a negro man slave the property of Ephraim Jackson of full age, being first duly charged and sworn, deposeth and saith, that the prisoner at the bar informed him that Isaac a negro man slave belonging to the estate of Joseph Wilkes, dece'd, had been out in Carolina doctering and to raise men (meaning negroes) to kill the white people, and that he the said Isaac had enlisted him the said Phil to enlist the negroes in his neighborhood to join, and asked him the said George to join.

Ransom, a negro the property of Ephraim Jackson, being first duly charged and sworn, deposeth and saith, that he heard the prisoner make use of nearly the same words, and asked him to join him, and that they were to kill all the white people, men, women and children as they went.

Jeffrey, a negro man slave, the property of the estate of Joseph Wilkes, being sworn, deposeth and saith that he heard the prisoner at the bar say that he would not serve old Randolph Hagood, and that he would raise a company (meaning of negroes) and kill old Randolph and then the rest of the white people.

A copy—Teste:

HERBERT HILL, C. B. C.

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer held for the County of Brunswick, on Wednesday, the third day of February, 1802, for the trial of Isaac, a negro man slave, the property of the estate of Joseph Wilkes, dec'd, late of this county:

Feb. 11

Present: John Stith, Griffin Stith, Theophilus Field, Aaron Brown, and David Meade, Gent. Justices.

The Court being thus constituted, proceeded to the examination of

1802.  
Feb. 11

Isaac, negro man slave, the property of the estate of Joseph Wilkes, dec'd, late of this county, charged with making insurrection against the Commonwealth, and conspiring and plotting the murder of Thomas Wilkes and Burwell Wilkes.

Divers witnesses were sworn and examined, and the prisoner heard by his Council in his own defence; whereupon, and upon mature consideration being had, it was the opinion of the court that the said Isaac was guilty of the charges contained in the Indictment. On consideration thereof, it was ordered that the said Isaac be hanged on Friday, the 12th day of February, 1802.

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*Testimony adduced at the trial of Isaac, negro man slave, the property of the estate of Joseph Wilkes, deceased.*

Feb. 11

Jeffrey, a negro man slave, the property of Joseph Wilkes, dec'd, being first duly charged and sworn, deposeth and saith that the prisoner, Isaac, came to his (the said Isaac's) mother's one night; that his mother advised him to come home (he being thereby urged) or they would raise a company and take him, he nodded his head and replied he would raise a Company too.

Adam, a negro man slave, the property of Ephraim Jackson, being first duly charged and sworn, deposeth and saith, that the prisoner, Isaac, came to where he was at work one day, and in conversation said he would not serve the Wilkes, and that he would kill or be killed first.

George, a negro man slave, the property of Ephraim Jackson, being first duly charged and sworn, deposeth and saith that the prisoner, Isaac, came to where he was at work one day, and informed him that he had engaged Phil (a negro man belonging to Randolph Hagood) to raise a company (meaning of negroes), and that he had been engaged himself to raise a company in order to kill the whites, and asked him to join, and that Thomas Wilkes was the first, and Burwell Wilkes the next that was to be put to death.

Ramson, a negro slave belonging to Ephraim Jackson, being first duly charged and sworn, deposeth and saith, that the prisoner Isaac came to him one day where he was ploughing, and informed him that he had been in No. Carolina a doctering and raising men, (meaning negroes) and that he would kill the white people, and that Thomas Wilkes were the first, and Burwell Wilkes next, that was to be killed, and then put all men, women and children to death.

A copy—Teste:

HERBERT HILL, C. B. C.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Urging that the timber last advertised for should be procured speedily for the Manufactory of Arms.

1802.  
Feb. 13

JAMES NEWELL, S. W. C., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Inclosed is a copy of the certificate given to Abram Trigg, Representative in Congress from the district of which this county is a part.

Feb. 15,  
Wythe Co.

I am, &c.

On comparing the polls taken in our respective counties for the election of a Representative in Congress in the district composed of the counties of Wythe, Washington, Russell, Lee, Grayson, Tazewell, Montgomery, Monroe, Greenbrier, Kanawha, we do hereby certify that Abram Trigg is elected agreeable to law. Witness our hands this 29th day of April, 1801.

James Newell, S. W. C.; John Arbuckle, Deputy for Isaac Estill, of Monroe county; Abram Dyerle, Deputy of Jas. Barnet, of Montgomery county; John McClurg, Deputy of Sam'l Price, of Greenbrier county; Hiram Craig, D. S. for Wm. Tate, S. W. C.; Jonathan Wood, D. S. for John Tate, S. R. C.

Copy:

JAMES NEWELL, S. W. C.

MERIWETHER JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking for an advance of one thousand dollars on his work of printing the Laws of the Commonwealth, now nearly completed.

Feb. 19,  
Richmond

MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Transmitting an account for \$13 67 expended by him during the insurrection of 1800 for cartridge paper.

Feb. 20,  
Penitentiary

PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

I beg leave to call your attention to the situation of certain public lands in the county of Buckingham which seem to require the immediate attention and interference of the Government.

Feb. 20,  
Richmond

1802.  
Feb. 20,  
Richmond

They were originally purchased for the purpose of supporting a blast furnace to be conducted by Balentine & Reveley, who were to become proprietors of the property upon paying a quantity of pig iron to the State. The quantity of iron stipulated was, I believe, never delivered, and of course the equitable title to the lands remained in the State, they having been originally conveyed to Trustees for the benefit of the Furnace. The Trustees, except Mayo Carrington, who was added to the original Trustees by assent, are now dead. Reveley, the surviving partner, from occasional derangement of mind, is unable to attend to the lands; indeed I do not suppose he has any right, from the view which I have taken of the subject. A suit has been instituted agreeable to resolutions of the Assembly and of counsel to compel Reveley to settle his accounts and to compel a sale or re-conveyance of the lands to the State.

In the meantime several persons are, and have been for some time, committing great devastations on the lands. I would submit it to the Executive whether it will not be proper for the Government to appoint an agent to take possession of the lands on the part of the public and to prevent further waste. There are one or two persons who have possession of part of the land and cultivate them under leases from Reveley from year to year, which I think he has no right to make. One of these, a Mr. Minton, who has filed an answer in the suit brought by me, has admitted that he has no claim except under Reveley, and that he is willing to deliver up the lands at the end of the year to the persons entitled. The agent might receive the lands of such persons who claim leases as are willing to deliver them up, and take measures for the preservation of the other parts from waste.

I am, &c.

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PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS, GEO. HAY, AND EDM'D RANDOLPH TO  
THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 20,  
Richmond

We duly received your favor of the 8th ultimo, requesting that we should have a conference with Mr. Henry Banks on the subject of the claim of Mr. De Beaumarchais. We have received a letter from him of the 19th instant, in which he states the objects to which he should direct his enquiries should he be employed by the Executive. We have considered Mr. Banks's communication, which we transmit herewith, and upon mature reflection, have formed the opinion that it would be most advisable for the Commonwealth, considering the situation of the suit of Beaumarchais's representatives, to decline for the present acting on the subject in the manner contemplated by Mr. Banks. We are of this opinion, because we think that the Court have already decided in favor of the Commonwealth as to a large proportion of the claim, and that as

to the sum about which there is a division of sentiment, we cannot but think that whenever, from a change of circumstances, that court is enabled to decide the decision will be favorable to the State. But should it be adverse, it will be time enough then to make an investigation with a view to new evidence, which may be made the foundation of a bill of review.

1802.  
Feb. 20.  
Richmond

We are, &c.

RICHMOND, *Feb'y 19th, 1802.*

SIR:

During the trial of the case between the Commonwealth and Beaumarchais, I was induced for my own satisfaction, to make enquiry into the merits, and I formed an opinion that nothing was due to Beaumarchais. The opinion of the Judges which declared that nothing was due, I believe to be correct, and the opinion who thought that an allowance should be made to Mr. Beaumarchais, appears to me to have proceeded from a mistake as to the value of Tobacco at the date of the contract. I believe that my opinion on this subject may be supported by investigations into transactions of that date.

I have thought that the Commonwealth's interest required that the case should be fully examined and stated, which may be done by the aid of sundry books and documents, which are in the Auditor's Office and the aid of testimony which may be obtained.

These will shew that Mr. Beaumarchais has been fully paid according to the settlement which was formerly made by Mr. Leighton Wood.

To ascertain the facts which are material to the Commonwealth's interest, will be attended with some unavoidable expenses which it will not suit me to defray. The time and trouble which it will cost I am willing to afford, and after the service is rendered, I shall be willing to submit the remuneration to the judgment of the Executive. The investigations have satisfied me that there is nothing due. I am not disposed without further inquiry to state them in detail. If my services may be required by the public departments to which this case belongs, it will be necessary to direct a report of the whole case, and to permit me to have access to the public archives of that date.

The foregoing letter is written in consequence of the desire of the Executive that you should confer with me on Mr. Beaumarchais's case.

I am, &c,

HENRY BANKS.

Philip Norborne Nicholas, Esq'r.

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WHEELER'S WORKS, *February 23rd, 1802.*

Feb. 23

This day I have inspected and passed Two hundred muskets manufactured at this place, the barrels of which had heretofore been duly

1802.  
Feb. 23      proved, and seen the same carefully packed up in good order in chests in the wagon of William Thorn, who has engaged to convey the same in safety to the city of Richmond.

Certified under my hand.

JOHN STRODE.

Teste:

EDWARD PENDLETON.

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GEORGE NICHOLSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 23,      Soliciting a commission as Surveyor of the County of Norfolk; the  
Portsmouth Court and Professors of William and Mary College having recommended him.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 25      I enclose you a letter which I received some time ago from Mr. John Hodson, of Birmingham (England), with an Invoice of some of the articles which were to be furnished by him for the Virginia Manufactory of Arms (all of which articles have been received as per Invoice except twenty-two cross-bars, marked A in said Invoice). I have lately received a letter from Col. Robert Gamble on the subject of those articles, accompanying an account of a Mr. Warren Ashley, of Norfolk, which I also enclose, together with the original contract made with Mr. Hodgson for supplying the said articles.

The Invoice sent by Mr. Hodgson appears to be in conformity with the Contract, but the account of Mr. Ashley having embraced charges not stipulated in the contract, I was induced to enquire of Col. Gamble, who assured me that such charges are usually incurred in mercantile transactions. He says that the 10 p'r cent. in Mr. Ashley's acc't (which I supposed to be Mr. Hodgson's commission) is one of the duties of the United States. By that statement 12½ p. ct. and 15 per cent. is charged upon the 10 per cent. as well as on the cost and charges of the articles. Not having the laws at hand, to them I must refer you for further information respecting said duties.

I am, &c.

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Feb. 25      At a Court held for Amelia County the 25th day of February, 1802:  
John Archer, Gent. is nominated and recommended to the Executive as a fit and proper person as an escheator in this county.

A Copy—Teste:

JAMES TOWNES, C. A. C.



Capt. Peter Gurrant, a contractor for furnishing lumber for the Public Warehouse, files a bond and security.

1802.  
Feb. 25

STAFFORD COUNTY, *February Court, 1802.*

Ordered, that Robert H. Hove be recommended to his Excellency, the Governor and Council, as a proper person to be commissioned Coroner of this county.

A Copy—Teste:

W. PEYTON, Cl'k S. Ct.

John Clarke's statement of accounts of various parties for work done on— Feb. 27

Manufactory of Arms, - - - - -	£586.14.05½
Penitentiary, - - - - -	97.01.05
	<hr/> £683.15.10½

Peter Gurrant's proposal to furnish lumber for the Public Warehouse according to specifications furnished him for one thousand pounds. Feb. 27

SAM'L COLEMAN TO CAPTS. CLARKE AND UNDERWOOD.

Mr. Wheeler has sent us two hundred muskets more, which I am instructed to request you will be so obliging as to examine and report the precise number, quality, and condition to the Executive; and as Col. Quarrier is unable to attend to it, that Capt. Underwood will be so good as to have them deposited in the roof of the Capitol with the other arms. March 2

I am, &c.

ARCHIBALD ROANE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 9th of February. March 3, Knoxville

No communications have been received from the Commissioners appointed by your Excellency on the subject of arranging the time and place of meeting; and, pursuant to your request, I beg the favor of you to apprise them that it will be agreeable to my wishes that the Commissioners appointed on behalf of this State should meet them on the third day of May next at Capt. James Thompson's, in Washington County,

1802. Virginia, to proceed from thence in discharge of the duties confided to  
 March 3, them by the respective States.  
 Knoxville

I have, &c.

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March 3 Petition of Abram McDonald, convicted in the District Court at Dumfries of the murder of James Billingsley, of Fauquier County, and sentenced to the Penitentiary for the term of four years. This petition is very numerously signed, and is for the remission of his sentence on the ground of justification and self-defence.

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ANDREW REID, CLERK OF ROCKBRIDGE, TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 4 I, Andrew Reid, Clerk of said County Court, do hereby certify that on the night between the second and third instant the Court House of said County was destroyed by fire, and that the meeting house in or near Lexington is considered by a meeting of the Magistrates to be the most proper place for holding Courts for said County until the Court House is rebuilt.

I am desired to request that the proclamation be forwarded per mail with all possible dispatch.

Teste:

ANDREW REID, C. R. Ct.

March 4th, 1802.

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March 5 The official Bond of William Berkeley as Treasurer of the Commonwealth for one year from the time of appointment, in the penalty of One Million of Dollars, with Wilson C. Nicholas as security, is filed.

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JAMES PRICE TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 9 Transmits resignation of commission as Tobacco Inspector at Byrd's Warehouse on account of bad health.

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THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 10, I hold it my duty to inform your Excellency that various reports are  
 Norfolk in circulation in this place and its vicinity respecting designs in the people of color inimical to the peace of society. These reports appear to have made a considerable impression on the minds of many respecta-

ble citizens; yet I am compelled to confess that, after strict enquiry, I am not inclined to stamp them with any degree of credit. The reports in circulation are that frequent meetings are held in the neighborhood of this place; that those meetings have consisted of from one to three and four hundred; that a correspondence is held by these meetings with similar ones in North Carolina; that an emissary is now in this town shortly to take his leave to that State with communications. Thus for the reports.

1802.  
March 10,  
Norfolk

In consequence of the alarm they have created, I have taken measures to apprehend the supposed emissary with as little noise as possible, the moment he commences his tour. I have not communicated the contents of this letter to any person, least it might give strength to the report; yet I thought it my duty to lay the same before your Excellency, and shall be happy in executing any orders you may think proper to issue on the occasion.

I am, &c.

JOHN COWPER TO THE GOVERNOR.

I take the liberty of addressing you on a subject of much importance to this place and may become of general concern. It is known that when the troubles obliged the inhabitants of the French Islands to seek refuge in other countries, that a number of them came to the United States, and to this State came numbers, and particularly to this place, bringing with them a number of slaves and others forbid by Law to become residents of this State.

March 11,  
Norfolk

From motives of humanity, the Police, I presume, was induced to take no notice of the evasion or violation of the Law on this occasion.

But, sir, at this moment I cannot disguise my anxiety, in which I am joined by many of our most reputable citizens. There are now a considerable number of persons of the above description in this place, whose dispositions, I apprehend, will be influenced by the accounts which are daily arriving and published concerning the horrid scenes of St. Domingo.

On this subject, your Excellency will more readily conceive the sensations which arise from apprehensions of this nature than I can describe. The situation of this place is such as a few hours would reduce it to ashes. I am well assured that the removal of those persons will be attended with some difficulty and should be managed with great delicacy, so much so that I hope you will excuse my troubling you with this letter. At the same time, I beg, sir, that you will favor me with your advice. I should add, that I do not know of any circumstance at this time which indicates a disposition that is to be seriously apprehended.

I am, &c.

## JAMES GREENHOW TO THE GOVERNOR.

1802.  
March 11      Asking that some compensation be allowed to the nurse to the sick of the Guard at the Barracks; also for a grate to be placed in one of the fireplaces of the building.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 12      Informing him of proposal of Henry Harper, of Gloucester county, to furnish black walnut gun stocks at fifteen pence, delivered at Rocketts, and asking instructions.

Advising that the contract for executing the wood work of the Public Warehouse should at once be advertised for, and that the Board should determine whether the roof thereof should be of tile or slate.

Asking whether a bill of John Taylor for brass nuts for the Armory should be held back for a settlement of amount claimed of him on account of a bell formerly belonging to the Capitol being broken, for which Taylor is supposed to be responsible.

Suggesting the employment of certain gunsmiths who have come seeking work in the new Armory, which is not quite ready, to clean the arms stored in the Capitol.

Suggesting the purchase of a quantity of walnut gun stocks (well seasoned) in Philadelphia, to last until those procured here are fit to work.

## HENRY CARBERRY TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 13      Enclosing one of the 12th March by J. Dubois, both asking Executive interference in behalf of a negro man named Jack Neale, sold by his master near Fredericktown, Md., and taken towards Louisiana by the man who bought him. The said Jack while on the Ohio River killed his purchaser, for which he was committed to jail in Kanawha County, and tried and condemned in the Court of that County to suffer death for his act.

## THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 13,  
Norfolk      Since writing to your Excellency on the 10th instant, I have made no discovery that induces me to alter the opinion I then gave respecting the reports in circulation at this place.

The fears of the people have not yet subsided. My design as hinted to your Excellency against the supposed emissary, has been frustrated by the interference of the civil magistrate. No discovery has been made

from that measure. Should any thing occur that shall alter my opinion or in any manner give the colour of probability to the reports, I shall immediately communicate the same to your Excellency.

1802.  
March 13,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

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JOHN MINOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. Lee agent or Escheator for this Commonwealth in the County of Prince William, requested me to aid the Att'y-General in sustaining the right of the Commonwealth against the claim of one, Briscoe, to a tract of land in the County of Prince William, which Escheated to the Commonwealth; I have accordingly done all I could to promote the interest of the Commonwealth, and mean to continue my exertions particularly as I am informed by the Attorney-General, that it is the wish of the Executive that I should do so: but I beg leave to inform the Executive that I have yet received no fee in this case; indeed I have never before asked for one.

March 13,  
Richmond

Three years ago a Commission was issued to take some Depositions in London, which were thought important, and the Executive undertook to have them taken, and I have heard did send over Commissions for that purpose, but the Depositions have not yet been taken. If the Executive have not already an agent in London to attend to the business, I beg leave to mention Mr. Irvin, American Consul now at London as a fit person to discharge the trust.

I am, &c.

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J. MONROE TO THE GOVERNOR.

The original of the enclosed letter was sent by post to Mr. Jefferson on this day, to enable him to adjust the acc't of the artist Houdon.

March 15

[Copy.]

I have lately received from Messrs. Grand and Company, the enclosed account of their transactions for the State of Virginia; which having all (except the last of them) taken place under my inspection, I have examined and found them just, and so certified. It appears that a balance is thereon due to them from the State of £6,931.9.6. I have taken the liberty of putting under your cover, a letter to the Auditor, which, if you will be so good as to peruse before you order it's delivery to him, will explain to you an eventual reduction of the balance to £4997.6. Messrs. Grand and Company are entitled to receive the balance in specie livres, of which kind those were which were due to Houdon. As they have

1802.  
March 15 carried their whole balance into account against me, it will give me satisfaction to be able when it shall suit your convenience, to inform them when and how they may expect payment.

I embrace with pleasure every occasion offered me, of assuring you of the sentiments of sincere respect and esteem, with which I have the honor to be your Excellency's

Most obed't, most humble servant.

THO. JEFFERSON.

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W. JACKSON, SECRETARY-GENERAL, TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE VIRGINIA STATE SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI.

March 16,  
Philadel-  
phia I beg leave to request that you will notify the Virginia State Society of the Cincinnati that the triennial general meeting is to be held in the city of Washington on the fifth Monday in May next, when it is exceedingly wished that their delegates may attend.

The nomination of those Gentlemen now in Congress, who are members of the Society, may facilitate the convening of a quorum of Delegates.

I am, &c.

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WM. HERBERT, PRESIDENT, TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 17,  
Alexandria Enclosing statement:

*Balance of the Books belonging to the President and Directors of the Bank of Alexandria.*

Dr.		Cr.
To Bills and Notes		By Capital Stock, - \$ 500,000 00
Discounted, - \$ 851,222 50		" Bank Notes, - 493,380 00
" Cash, - - - - 477,819 35		" Post Notes, - - 143,448 91
" Bonds, - - - - 4,911 85		" Deposits, - - 190,475 43
" Bank House, - - 4,500 00		" Discount, - - 8,385 23
" Incidental ch'g's, 1,372 70		" Discounts unp'd, 2,839 75
" Love's House, - 337 05		" Profit and Loss, 1,122 28
		" Interest, - - 511 85
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$1,340,163 45	\$1,340,163 45

J. A. SUTTON, B. K.  
GORDON CHAPIN, Cash'r.

Bank of Alexandria, Mar. 2d, 1802.

GEORGE BALFOUR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting appointment as Health Officer for Norfolk.

1802.  
March 17,  
Norfolk

CREED TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Suggesting the first day of October, 1802, as the most convenient and  
suitable time for beginning to run the Boundary Line of Virginia and  
Tennessee, at the place in Washington, designated by Mr. Roane. March 27

CREED TAYLOR AND PETER JOHNSTON TO THE GOVERNOR OF TEN-  
NESSEE.

Suggesting the first day of October, 1802, as the most convenient and  
suitable day for beginning to run the Boundary Line of Virginia and  
Tennessee, at the place in Washington, designated by Mr. Roane. March 29

CREED TAYLOR AND P. JOHNSTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

We have to request that you will furnish us with a copy of the Act of  
the Legislature of Tennessee appointing commissioners to meet those  
from this State for the purpose of adjusting the boundary line between  
the two States. This document will be necessary to enable us to ascer-  
tain the nature and extent of their powers. March 29

We shall also have occasion for copies of the various Legislative Acts  
of Virginia and North Carolina relative to the subject of the disputed  
line, and beg that they may be transmitted with every other document,  
which, in your judgment, will yield us any aid in the execution of the  
duties assigned to us.

We are, &c.

At a Court of Directors of the Hospital for the maintenance and cure  
of persons of unsound mind, held at the Hospital, at Williamsburg, the  
31st day of March, 1802: March 31

Ordered, That the treasurer of the Hospital be directed to apply to the  
Executive for a warrant from the Auditor of Public Accounts on the  
Treasurer of this State for sixteen hundred dollars.

A copy—Teste:

WILL RUSSELL, C. C. D.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1802. • Mr. John Taylor who has in his possession the broken bell which formerly belonged to the Capitol, proposes to give one shilling per pound for it.  
April 8

That I think a low price for the metal, but from a conversation with the workers in brass of this city, I do not think a higher price can be got here.

You will please inform me whether he shall have the bell at that price, or whether the bell shall be retained and the money due him for work paid to him.

The amount of enclosed account is as follows:

Prosser & Moncure,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£4.	10.
Thomas White,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.	1. 7½
Robert Gordon's Acc't,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.	3. 11
								£52.	15. 6½

## SAMUEL SHEPPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 10,  
Auditor's  
Office

I am under the necessity of troubling your Excellency and the Hon'ble Board of Council on behalf of Mr. Jackson, the Clerk of Accounts in this Office, whose salary, by the Act of last Assembly, entitled an Act to fix the salaries of certain officers, is reduced from \$625 per annum to \$416 67cts. The additional salary heretofore given him was by orders of the Executive of the 6th of January, and 5th of April. 1797, to make it equal with that of the first clerk in this office, and to which it had been raised in the case of Mr. Heitman, Mr. Jackson's predecessor in this birth, by a resolution of Assembly of October session, 1787. The duties of the Clerk of Accounts are laborious and important, and require the skill of an able accountant, such a one as Mr. Jackson. I, therefore, presume to hope, sir, that the Board will be pleased to direct the difference to be made up quarterly out of the Contingent Fund until the next General Assembly.

I am, &c.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 10

As a number of apprentices will be required in the several branches of the Manufacture of Arms in our works, and it being an important object that young Virginians should be taught the art of making arms, I beg leave to suggest the propriety of advertising for apprentices in the newspapers of this city.

I am, &c.



Certificate of John Timberlake, clerk of Fluvanna, that Michael Atkisson, appointed Sheriff of said county on the 23d day of January, 1802, had failed to give bond and security within two months of the date of appointment.

1802.  
April 13

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JOHN COWPER TO THE GOVERNOR.

I am sorry to be under the necessity of communicating to the Executive circumstances of a serious and alarming nature, and although I am not able at this moment to afford such full and satisfactory information as I hope to transmit in a few days, I deemed it proper to give you such information as I now possess, with a view to prevent the confusions which the exaggerations of rumor might create.

April 17,  
Norfolk

For some weeks past it has been rumored that an insurrection of the negroes was to take place on the night of Monday next (being Easter Monday). These reports were always examined into, and I must confess that there did not appear to me to be any just ground for apprehension. All these reports, however, agreed in stating that the signal of commencing the insurrection was to be setting fire to this place. Under these circumstances, all that could be done was to order strong Patrols of militia each night, which was directed with promptness by the Majors of the Battallions.

Yesterday this affair assumed a more serious aspect. Early in the morning a man by the name of Lewis called on me and informed me of the following circumstances. On the 15th, about five miles from this place, on the Princess Anne Road, he met with and was from some suspicions induced to take up a negro called Will, belonging to the Estate of Mary Walke, but hired to one Floyd, of Princess Anne. Floyd being an acquaintance of Lewis, the latter took Will to Floyd, suspecting as he had no pass that he was absent without leave. When he arrived at Floyd's the agitation of Will was so remarkable as to induce a suspicion of his having either perpetrated or intended to perpetrate some great crime, and as the subject of conversation of the day first occurred, he was accused by Lewis and the others of such a design, upon which he confessed that such a plan was in agitation. He stated that sundry slaves (who he named) had invited him to join in setting the town on fire on Monday next; that he did not agree to join, but was on his way to Norfolk to see what was to be done. Yesterday Dr. Reed, one of the Aldermen, went to Kempsville, where Will was confined in jail, when he confirmed all that is above stated. Measures were taken to apprehend those named, and most of them have been secured in the jails of Princess Anne and this place, and I persuade myself that from some of them a compleate development of this business will be made.

Since writing the preceding, additional discoveries have been made to

1802.  
April 17,  
Norfolk

confirm what I have already stated, but the mail closing I cannot go into detail. Such precautions are taken that I can assert that no mischief can happen here.

I am, &c.

#### Halifax County Court:

April 23,  
Halifax  
County

Trial of Sancho, a negro man slave, charged with conspiring to rebel and to murder Daniel Dejarnett.

Present: William Terry, William McDaniel, William Thompson, Isaac H. Coles, and Charles Meriwether, Gentlemen Justices.

John A. Fowlkes was assigned as council for the prisoner, and divers witnesses being sworn and examined, Sancho was found guilty and sentenced to be hung on the 16th of May, 1802.

Abram, a negro man slave, testified that in the spring he met Sancho, who told him that the negroes intended to destroy the white people, and that he intended expressly to kill Daniel Dejarnette and take his wife for his own. There would be two companies of negroes—one to meet at Dejarnett's and the other at Jamison's store, and begin on the Friday night before Easter.

Bob, a slave, testified that Sancho asked him to join the insurrection in the fall of 1801, and when reminded of the fate of those who rose at Richmond, said he reckoned the work could be done.

Frank, a negro man slave, sentenced to death on the charge of conspiracy to rebel and to murder Daniel Purkins, and sentenced to be hung on the 15th of May, 1802.

Abram, a slave, testified that Frank had asked him to join an insurrection to kill the white people, and said that he would kill Daniel Purkins and take his wife.

#### JOHN B. SCOTT TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 23,  
Halifax  
County

The Court is just now in the tryal of a third offender—two are convicted and the evidence against them will be forwarded to you in the course of next week—two more will be tryed this evening. I believe the evidence against them will be too weak to convict them. On Monday next four others will be tryed. I have just received information that three white persons are connected in the plot; that they have arms and ammunition concealed under their houses, and were to give aid when the negroes should begin.

This information is from one of the persons who is called the General, one who was with the British Army in the American War, and appears to be a very sensible fellow. I shall pursue those persons to-morrow and feel somewhat at a loss how to act with respects to them if they should be detected.

I am, &c.

RICHARD CORBIN, LIEUT., FOR ROBERT BOYD, CAPT., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting fifty stand of arms for company of Light Infantry of King & Queen Co., belonging to the 9th Regiment of Va. Militia.

1802.  
April 23

Received of James Monroe, Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, fifty-nine musquets and Bayonets, and fifty-eight cartridge boxes, being the proportion of arms allowed the hundred and eleventh Regiment under the two first apportionment of arms distributed under the Act of Assembly concerning the Militia of this Commonwealth.

April 23

JOHN P. HUNGERFORD, *Comd.*

Westmoreland, April 23rd, 1802.

WM. DABNEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeably to the request of the Board of Inspectors of the Penitentiary, I have to communicate to you that the period for which the following members of that Board were appointed by the Executive, expired on the 14th Inst., to-wit:

April 24,  
Richmond

Geo. Hay, Robt. Mitchell, James Lownes, Micajah Davis, Meriwether Jones, and Samuel Pleasants. The four first-named Gentlemen (if the Executive should think proper to reappoint them) expressed a willingness to serve twelve months longer; the two last mentioned requested me to inform you that the nature of their business is such as will not admit of their paying the attention necessary, and must therefore decline.

I am, &c.

GEORGE WILLIAMSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeable to your Excellency's Letter, to me directed, I have examined the arms last sent by Mr. Wheeler, and am of opinion that the Locks, stocks, and barrels are no better than those furnished yetafore. The ram-rods are good, being tempered. The Bayonets are some steel and tempered, and some Iron and not tempered. Upon the whole, I think the arms last sent are better than those furnished formerly by Mr. Wheeler.

April 24

I am, &c.

1802. Norfolk Borough :  
April 26

At a Court of Oyer and Terminer summoned and held the 26th day of April, 1802. for the trial of Ned, a negro man slave, belonging to the Estate of William Walke, deceased, charged with consulting, advising, and conspiring to rebel and make insurrection.

The above named negro man Ned was brought to the bar, and, being arraigned, pleaded not guilty. Thereupon George Suggs was sworn, and a negro man slave named Will, belonging to the Estate of William Walke, deceased, was charged according to Law and also sworn as a witness, and the prisoner heard in his own defence by Robt. B. Taylor, his counsel. On consideration whereof, it is the opinion that the said slave Ned is thereof guilty, and thereupon it is ordered that he be hanged on Friday, the fourteenth day of May, 1802.

*The Evidence Adduced in the Trial of Ned.*

The testimony of George Suggs is as follows:

That on the Sunday before Easter Sunday, the prisoner was at his house at different times of the day, he having a wife in his (the witness) kitchen; that he cleaned his boots and was employed about other things late in the morning of that day; that the prisoner was a negro of but slender understanding—almost an idiot; that the witness was absent from home between breakfast and dinner about three hours, and was sufficiently long for Ned to go to Town Bridge and return.

The testimony of Will, a negro man slave, on the above trial, is as follows:

That on the Saturday before Easter Sunday, he (the witness) was coming into the Town of Norfolk; he was called to a little above Town Bridge, in the said Borough, by the prisoner and a negro man slave named Jeremiah, belonging to the Estate of John Cornick, in the day time. That on coming up to them he was asked by the prisoner to join them. The witness asked, Join them to do what? He was told by the prisoner they wanted him to join them and others in burning the town of Norfolk on the night of Easter Monday. That he had before heard of an insurrection contemplated by the negroes. That on his being asked as aforesaid he refused to join. That he considered and believed the intention of the prisoner and the others concerned, was to burn and plunder the Town and murder the inhabitants.

Which was the whole evidence adduced for and against the Prisoner.

Certified to by

WM. SHARP, C. N. B.

At the same Court, held on the same day, a negro man named Jeremiah, belonging to the Estate of John Cornick, deceased, late of Princess Anne, was arraigned and tried on the charge of conspiring with other idle and ill-disposed persons, of which he was duly convicted and condemned to be executed on Friday, the 14th day of May next.

*Testimony Adduced on the Trial of Jeremiah.*

Will, negro man slave, belonging to the Estate of Wm. Walke, gave the same testimony which he had on the same day given in the case of Ned.

1802.  
April 26

JOHN COWPER TO THE GOVERNOR.

I am honored by your letter of the 22nd, and have to inform you that the trial of two of the leaders of the intended insurrection came on yesterday, and the evidence of their guilt was such as removed every doubt, and they are sentenced to be executed on Friday, the 14th of next month. A copy of the evidence, agreeable to act of Assembly, will be forwarded to you as soon as it can be transcribed by the clerk. There were two others who would most certainly have met the same fate, but it appeared upon examination that the offence of one was committed in the county of Norfolk and the other in Princess Anne. They have (without being brought before our Court) been accordingly delivered to the respective civil authorities having jurisdiction of the offences.

April 27,  
Norfolk

A number of circumstances have come to light, which many of them, unimportant in themselves, yet form an aggregate, proving an organized plan of insurrection.

A few days more will, I think, develop the whole of their plans, and which shall be communicated to you.

The active and efficient aid which the civil authority has received from the militia, enables me to say with confidence that we have nothing to apprehend.

I am, &c.

THOMAS ROANE, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting thirty-three stand of arms for the use of the 109th Regiment of militia in Middlesex county.

April 30,  
Middlesex  
County

MICAJAH DAVIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Accepting appointment as Inspector of the Penitentiary.

April 30,  
Richmond

*Confession of Jeremiah Cornick, a Slave, Taken the 2d of May, 1802, Now Under Condemnation to Die for a Charge of Conspiracy.*

Denies the statements made in regard to him. On Sunday, the 11th of April, he remained nearly all the morning at home, at Mr. McIntosh's

May 2,  
Norfolk

1802.  
May 2,  
Norfolk

kitchen; that he went to the church-yard, and afterwards to a baptizing, with two black men named Lamb, and then returned home.

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May 3,  
Richmond

Governor Monroe informs the Council of the application of the corporation of Petersburg for the loan of twelve horseman's swords. Granted.

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*The Substance of Lewis' Confession, Made to Col. Peter Randolph.*

May 5

Arthur, alias Arthur Farrar, Cæsar, alias Major John Price, and Cory, the property of Dr. John Brockenbrough, were the principal characters for exciting the negroes to insurrection. He was employed as an assistant to kill the inhabitants of Richmond and burn the city. Arthur told him several white men had engaged to assist them, and that these white men first suggested the rising. They would seize the magazine and kill all the white men and women, and nothing but death should stop them. The meeting place was to have been between Scuffletown and Richmond on the 16th of May. Several men were recruited, especially Juniper, a free negro, who said he would free all the slaves. Lewis stated that he knew his confession would cause his death, for he spoke against his color, and the blacks would kill him. The conspiracy is spreading over every county in the State, and the country was to be divided among the blacks.

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LIEUT. THOS. UNDERWOOD TO COL. ALEXANDER QUARRIER.

May 5,  
Richmond

Reporting that on the night of the 3d instant, four unknown men made an attack with bricks upon the sentinel at the Capitol, and were fired on.

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GEORGE McINTOSH TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 5,  
Norfolk

Sending testimony to prove that Will, the slave on whose testimony Jeremiah and Ned were convicted, is unreliable, and that his evidence given on the trial was false.

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May 5,  
Hanover

The County Court—present: Parke Goodall, John Bowe, Henry Robinson, John Kilby, and Parke Street, Gentlemen Justices—sentence Glasgow, a negro man, the property of Paul Thilman, of Hanover, to death on charge of conspiracy and insurrection, and order him to be hung on the 28th instant.

James, a mulatto man slave, testified that Glasgow asked him if he would join in a plot to kill the whites, and said, "Yes, I have rose for my

freedom, and I have never got it: but, damn it, I will either die or be free."

Eve Glasgow, sr., Ben, and Walker, slaves, said they were present, but heard no such conversation.

The Court recommended Glasgow as a fit object for the benefit of the law for transportation.

Similar sentence of Tom, a slave. Recommended for transportation.

1802  
May 3  
Hanover

Certificate of Daniel Verser, J. P., and G. Green, Attorney for the Commonwealth, giving additional confessions of negro man slave Lewis. Arthur told Lewis his plan was to kill all the white males between 8 and 80 years of age and all white women. That he had long had this plan on his mind, and had joined with both black and white, that is, the "common men of poor white people," and with mulattoes. Eight or ten white men would go first to the magazine in Richmond and hand out arms. Arthur said further to him that he had been "under great exemption," but that now he had escaped, he lived at peace. The date of the rising was to be the 16th of May, and the men enlisted in Hanover were to come into Richmond by the Brook bridge. Lewis then refused to join the plot, and Arthur threatened him with death if he revealed what was told him.

May 6

GRIEF GREEN TO THE GOVERNOR.

The sheriff of Nottoway has been directed to carry the negro man Lewis to the Penitentiary for safe keeping. Is requested to inform the Governor, by Col. Goodwin, of Dinwiddie, that Juniper, named by Lewis, has been arrested. A white man of suspicious character has been detected encouraging and aiding the proposed insurrection, and would be arrested the next day.

May 7,  
Nottoway  
County

J. BENNETT TO THE GOVERNOR.

At the request of Mr. George McIntosh he has aided him in collecting the evidence, which is sent, regarding the condemned negroes Jeremiah and Ned. If the Council should consider that this evidence is in extenuation of the offence, it in nowise impugns the honor or humanity of the Court, for it has been made known since the trial.

May 7,  
Norfolk

JOHN COWPER TO THE GOVERNOR.

The trials of the negroes Ned and Jeremiah were conducted with great fairness, and able counsel was assigned them, who made a most ingenious

May 8,  
Norfolk

1802.  
May 8,  
Norfolk

defence. Believes no members of the Court attach importance to the affidavits gotten by Mr. McIntosh with a view to discredit the evidence given on the trial. Considers Ned a simple fellow and believes public sentiment would be gratified by seeing him transported and Jeremiah executed.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 8      Some alteration in Mr. Latrobe's plan for the Penitentiary building, is indispensably necessary in order to secure proper facilities for cleaning the building. Asks a meeting of a committee of the Council, that he may explain the alterations he proposes to make.

May 14,  
Richmond

Number of arms in the hands of the militia of the 19th regiment:

Captain Dixon's Company, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	stand.
" Holloway's, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59	"
" Richardson's (Light Infantry), -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	"
" Wolfe's, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	"
" Tate's, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	"
" Meyer's (Artillery), -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	"
" Nicolson's (now Dabney's), -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	"
" Smith (no return).									
" Giles (now Major; no return).									
" Strobia (resigned; no return).									
Lieutenant John Scott Pleasant, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	"
In hands of Quartermaster West, delivered up by sundry captains, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51	"
Delivered in to the Penitentiary, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	89	"
Total, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	449	"

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THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 14,  
Norfolk

Inclosing papers found as the stopper of a jug on board a free negro's vessell, which have given rise to suspicion that communications are being held with the negroes of the upper country. The jug was the property of an Irishman, a passenger. Will send the negro and white man to the mayor of Petersburg for examination.

Is glad the negroes condemned in Norfolk have been reprieved for a time, but hopes they will never again be permitted to go at large in the



The County Court sentences Arthur, a negro man slave, the property of William Farrer, of Goochland, to death for conspiracy and rebellion, and orders him to be hung on the 18th of June, 1802, on a gallows to be built near the magazine. 1802.  
May 17,  
Henrico Co.

Lewis, a negro man slave, testified that he first heard of the insurrection from Arthur the preceeding December at Mr. Bootright's. Arthur said he had once gotten clear of the gallows, but was determined to loose his life that way sooner than not accomplish his object; that he had a great number of men towards Hanover, who would meet near the Brook bridge, and also that all of the free blacks and a great number of poor white people were to join in it.

Norfolk County Court.—Present: Robert Brough, James Holt, Richard Blow, James Brown, Samuel Smith, and James Matthews, Gentlemen Justices. May 17,  
Norfolk Co.

Ned, a negro man slave belonging to the estate of John Ingram, charged with insurrection and conspiracy, was heard by his assigned counsel, and several witnesses were examined, and the court being four for conviction and one for acquittal, therefore the prisoner was discharged.

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#### JOHN COWPER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Much discontent has been caused by the indulgence which the Executive has granted the condemned negroes. Is persuaded that testimony, if not absolutely false, certainly partial, has been forwarded to him with a view to procure a mitigation of the sentence. The public mind is in a state of great anxiety and uneasiness. May 18,  
Norfolk

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#### WILLIAM NEWSUM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Mr. George McIntosh, a respectable merchant of the Borough of Norfolk, and a particular friend of mine, has been induced from motives of justice and humanity to interest himself in favor of some unfortunate negroes who have been condemned to die by the Borough Court of Norfolk. Their trial and condemnation has greatly agitated the public mind in this place and excited some warmth, it being believed by many that the witness was of too infamous a character for his testimony to be relied on. I beg leave to inform you that I have been acquainted with Mr. McIntosh a number of years, and that I have found him a man of strict integrity and irreproachable character; and permit me to add, that during our political contests he has been uniform and ardent in support of Republican principles, and that in this business I believe him to have been actuated by the purest and most disinterested motives. May 19,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

PETITION TO THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF CITIZENS OF NORFOLK.

1802.  
May 19,  
Norfolk

The unexpected suspension of the sentence of the Court of Norfolk Borough with respect to the negroes Jeremiah and Ned has excited general sensibility and constrains us to an expression of the general sentiment.

Many of us were present at the trials, were satisfied with the sufficiency of the testimony, assisted by an unshaken countenance and uniform narrative; others of us have had a just representation of the same, and all of us approve the judgment of the Court.

We trust that we are exempt from sanguinary motives. If their situation authorized a claim to mercy, we should with satisfaction indulge it, and unite our efforts for their deliverance; but feeling the distressing necessity of exemplary punishment at a time like the present, persuaded that the threatened calamities will be more effectually obviated by fulfilling the sentence of the Court than by the exercise of unmerited mitigation, we, notwithstanding an unfortunate acquittal by the County Court of one of the party, earnestly entreat that no further delay may be permitted after the period for which your honorable Board has granted a reprieve.

Paul Loyall, Robert Taylor, Ed. Archer, Ja. Taylor, sr., James Maxwell, H. Allmand, Conway Whittle, Wright Southgate, Arch'd Williamson, Theoderick Bland, John West, Edward Hansford, Duncan McDonald, Mitchell Throwgood, Wm. Sharp, John Portlock, and 211 other persons.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 22

Inclosing copy of a letter which, according to the Governor's direction, he had written to Henry Foxall, of Georgetown, in which he requests Foxall to inform him what he will charge for introducing his improvements in making ordnance into the Richmond Armory.

HENRY FOXALL TO JOHN CLARKE.

For the sum of \$500 will give details in full, with drawings, in regard to site and form of foundry and boring mill and machinery. Thinks that it would be well for Clarke to come to Georgetown and see the works he has constructed there, which are the most complete of the kind.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 22

Has received his letter, enclosing one of Mr. Mims', in regard to the employment of convicts. They should not work anywhere, where there

are facilities for escape, but should be employed in the house and yard.  
Suggests stone cutting.

1802.  
May 12

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have this moment received information that three tierces of Gun Flints have been sent by Mr. Hodgson to Col. Gamble for the Virginia Manufactory of Arms. The three tierces contain one hundred thousand. As no letter has been received by me respecting them, and as I cannot suppose Mr. Hodgson could conceive himself authorized by his contract with the Executive for furnishing tools for the Virginia Manufactory of Arms to furnish Gun Flints, I shall not receive them until directed by you. I am sorry to find that more of the tools which were to have been sent by him are not arrived.

May 22

I am, sir, &c.

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ALEX. QUARRIER, THOS. UNDERWOOD, AND JOSIAH BINGHAM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Stating that four corporals are not a sufficient number for the Public Guard, as two are on duty each day, one at the Barracks and one at the Penitentiary. Suggest that two more be appointed.

May 24,  
Richmond

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Petition of citizens of Hanover county for the pardon of two negroes, sentenced to be hung on the 28th instant for the crime of conspiracy and insurrection.

May 24

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WILLIAM PRENTIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

The paper sent him is a list of hands in some tobacco factory in Petersburg, and the numbers opposite indicate the number of pounds each stemmed during the day. Wishes all alarms might be as easily dissipated.

May 27,  
Petersburg

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JOHN COWPER TO THE GOVERNOR.

I am honored by yours of the 25th of last month. On Friday last, Jeremiah was executed pursuant to the sentence of the Court. I am informed that he protested his own innocence of the crime for which he suffered, but on being pressed a few minutes before his death, to declare whether he had any knowledge of any conspiracy or not intended by the

June 1,  
Norfolk

1802.  
June 1,  
Norfolk

Slaves, he refused to answer, and nothing would extract an answer. I have no doubt but this example will produce the effect which it is wished.

Ned, I think (and in this opinion I am joined almost universally), is entitled from the circumstances of his character, to a mitigation of his sentence, more especially as the end of punishment has been already answered.

Should the Executive be pleased to mitigate this sentence to transportation, I am persuaded the measure will be received with general satisfaction, and be the means of securing our future peace and safety.

I am. &c.

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THOMAS JEFFERSON, PRES. U. S. TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 3,  
Washington

I observe that the resolution of the Legislature of Virginia of Jan. 23, in desiring us to look out for some proper place to which insurgent negroes may be sent, expresses a preference of the continent of Africa or some of the Spanish or Portugese settlements in S. America, in which preference, and especially as to the former, I entirely concur. On looking towards Africa for our object, the British establishment at Sierra Leone at once presents itself. You know that that establishment was undertaken by a private company, and was first suggested by the suffering state of the blacks who were carried over to England during the revolutionary war and who were perishing with want and misery in the streets of London. A number of benevolent persons subscribed for the establishment of a company who might carry these people to the coast of Africa and there employ them usefully for themselves and indemnify the company by commercial operations. Sierra Leone was fixed on as the place; the blacks then in England were carried thither, and a vessel or vessels sent to Nova Scotia which carried to the same place the blacks who had gone to that country; the settlement is, therefore, composed of negroes formerly inhabitants of the Southern States of our Union. Having asked a conversation on this subject, with Mr. Thornton, the British Charge des Affairs here, he informs me the establishment is prosperous, and he thinks there will be no objection on the part of the Company to receive blacks from us, not of the character of common felons, but guilty of insurgency only, provided they are sent as free persons—the principles of their institution admitting no slavery among them. I propose therefore, if it meets your approbation, to write to Mr. King our Minister in London, to propose this matter to the Sierra Leone Company who are resident in London, and if leave can be obtained to send black insurgents there, to inquire further whether the regulations of the place would permit us to carry or take there any mercantile objects, which by affording some commercial profit, might defray the expenses of the transportation.

As soon as I can be favored with your sentiments on this proposition and your approbation of it, I will write to Mr. King that we may have the matter finally arranged. Should any mercantile operation be permitted to be combined with the transportation of these persons so as to lessen or to pay the expence, it might then become eligible to make that the asylum for the other description also—to-wit, the freed negroes and persons of colour. If not permitted, so distant a colonization of them would perhaps be thought too expensive; but while we are ascertaining this point, we may be making enquiry what other suitable places may be found in the West Indies or the Southern continent of America, so as to have some other resource provided if the one most desirable should be unattainable. In looking out for another place, we should prefer placing them with whatsoever power is least likely to become an enemy, and to use the knowledge of these exiles in predatory expeditions against us. Portugal and Holland would be of this character, but I wish to have your sentiments on both branches of the subject before I commit it by any actual step.

1802.  
June 3,  
Washington

Accept assurances of my affectionate and high esteem and respect.

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GEO. GOOSLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

You will oblige me by submitting the following proposals to the consideration of the Executive.

June 5,  
Richmond

The convicted slaves confined in the Penitentiary house of this Commonwealth, having become so numerous as to render their maintenance burthensome and their safe keeping inconvenient, and no acceptable offer having been made for their purchase, I propose to convey them immediately without the United States, and to dispose of them according to Law in the following manner and upon the following terms.

The Dutch or Spanish settlements in the West Indies offering the most advantageous market, I would convey them from the place of their confinement *by water* to Norfolk, and from thence by sea to Surinam or the Havana, to which place opportunities of conveyance are frequent, and where as good prices may be obtained for them as in any part of the West Indies. This appears to be the preferable mode of transportation for many reasons.

1st. Because they could be transported at much less expense by sea than on the land.

2ndly. It is by far the most expeditious.

3rdly. There is much less danger of escape.

The importations of slaves into Louisiana since its session to France, has been prohibited; this I learn from a gentlemen from Kentucky.

As it is not expected that it is the object of the Executive to make the

1802.  
June 5,  
Richmond

sale a matter of traffic, but merely to repay into the public Treasury the sums drawn from it and expended in the purchase of the slaves, I shall expect as the reward of my agency, the surplus arising from the sales after refunding to the State its expenditures in purchasing, removing and transporting them. Should any disappointment occur so as to render the amount of the sales inadequate to this purpose, I shall be content with a very reasonable recompence, sufficient however to defray the expence of the trip.

There shall be good security given for the faithful performance of this duty if it be required.

I am, &c.

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GEORGE GOOSLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 8      Finding it to be the wish of the Executive that the negroes confined in the Penitentiary should be sold here rather than disposed of in a different manner, you will therefore oblige me by laying the following proposal before the Board:

For all except two, I will give three hundred dollars, and for those two, who are aged and unlikely, two hundred and fifty. The money payable one-half in one month after the return of the person carrying them abroad, which will not be later than December, and the other half in six months from the time of the first payment; security for complying with the requisites of the Law and for the payment of the money at the time specified, shall be given.

I am, &c.

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WILLIAM WILKERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 8,  
Nansemond

The awfully dangerous situation of this particular part of the State in consequence of the movements of the negroes in this and neighboring Counties, has induced me to address your Excellency on this truly alarming subject. Just as the citizens of this county, and the Town of Suffolk particularly, were in some measure relieved from apprehensions of danger at least for a while after the late trial of several negroes, we have experienced a fresh and more alarming account of an intended Insurrection. This information has been communicated from a county in North Carolina adjacent to this County, by several Respectable characters, a copy of which communication I have taken the liberty to enclose you.

Our situation is truly awful. I am aware of the propriety of calling out the militia in case of Insurrection. I believe, too, that I might be

justified in doing so on good grounds to apprehend an Insurrection, but as in this case the measure must be induced by constructive acts, I am unwilling to go into active measures previous to orders for that purpose. I shall therefore be much gratified if your Excellency will be pleased to direct the mode of conduct proper to be observed by me as Lt.-Col. Com't of this County, particularly how far it may be proper for me to exercise discretionary measures.

1802.  
June 8,  
Nansemond

This Letter will be handed you by Mr. Thomas Simpson, to whom I beg leave to refer your Excellency for further particulars.

I am, &c.

NO. CAROLINA, HERTFORD Co, *June 5th, 1802.*

The Citizens of Nansemond County:

Gentlemen—A horrid plot has been discovered amongst the negroes in this county and the county of Bertie, which has for its object the total destruction of the whites. Their plan is to be put in execution the 10th of June inst.

This report is not to be treated lightly, for it is reduced to an absolute certainty from a paper found in the possession of one of them. This paper appears to be a letter from the Captain of them in this county to the intended Captain in Bertie, which points out a number of their officers and the place of rendezvous. We have caused a number of them to be taken up and from several corroborating testimonies there is not a doubt remaining that such a plan does actually exist. We have filled our Goal with them, and are about to have a called Court for their trial. From every circumstance we are led to believe that the plan is to be a general thing throughout the country, therefore have dispatched messengers different ways to give the alarm, and for a number of particulars we refer you to the bearer of this letter.

Being awfully imprest with the nature of the impending danger, we do most seriously entreat the people generally to be upon their guard, and we would recommend to you to pursue the plan which led to this discovery among us. It was as follows: The officers throughout the counties at a certain time, previously agreed upon, proceed to make a general search in all the negroes' houses and other suspected places.

In a cotton barrel in one of their cabins the before-mentioned letter was found, very curiously concealed.

We are, gentlemen, your obed't servants,

JOHN SCOTT, Col.;  
LEW. BROWN, Lt.;  
JAMES JONES, Lt.;  
ARTHUR POSTER, P.;  
N. HARRELL,  
TIMO. WALTON.

## BENJAMIN OVERMAN TO CAPT. GRICE.

1802.  
June 10,  
Gum Bridge  
N. C.

I have to inform you that I have just received an express from John Shaw that the negroes have embodied in Hartford county and are now under arms. The express came to Mr. Shaw 12 o'clock this night. I am in a hurry.

Mr. Browning Nixinton received an express last night at 12 o'clock giving information that the negroes in Bertie county had risen in Winsor and committed great havock; from thence they marched to Chowan river, where they are embodied and armed, there at the ferry, above seven miles from the river.

I do certify this to be a true copy.

D. JONES.

The above places are in No. Carolina.

## THOS. MATTHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 15,  
Norfolk

I hold it my duty to forward to your Excellency every information respecting the alarms created by the supposed inclination of the people of color to rebel. The inclosed letter from Col. Dawley of Princess Anne, with a copy of information forwarded from the neighboring counties in North Carolina will shew to your Excellency the state of the business in that quarter.

Since the receipt of Dawley's letter, similar information has been handed to me from other quarters, accompanied by reports that I hold to be exaggerated.

Whatever may be the true state of the business or how far the insurgents (if ever) mean to extend their efforts, it is impossible for me to say. They have however created considerable alarm in that part of Norfolk County contiguous to No. Carolina, and the people are voluntarily doing duty. They can give me no good reason for their fears, yet they appear fully satisfied that some attempt will be made by the blacks.

Your Excellency will observe by Col. Dawley's letter, that his people are without ammunition. In case of emergency, I should feel no hesitation in supplying what was necessary, but I beg leave to submit to your Excellency whether it ought not to be immediately done. The people of the Borough are well supplied and appear to apprehend no danger. How long they will remain quiet under the present reports, it is difficult to say.

I shall be happy in receiving the orders of your Excellency at all times.

I am, &c.



to the white Pepil:

White pepil be-ware of your lives, their is a plan now forming and intend to be put in execution this harvest time—they are to commence and use their Sithes as weapons until they can get possession of other weapons; their is a great many weapons hid for the purpose, and be you all assured If you do not look out in time that many of you will be put to death. the sceam is to kill all before them, men, women, and children. their has been expresses going In Every direction for some days to see all the negroes they could this holladay, to make the arrangements and conclud what time it is to commence and at what plasis they are to assemble. watch they conduc of your Negroes and you will see an alteration. I am a confident of the leaders and can not give you my name. I am also a greater friend to some of the Whites, and wish to preserve their lives. I am a favorite Servant of my Master and Mistis, and love them dearly.

June 7th 1802.

1802.  
June 15

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LAZARUS COOK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Prays for remission of damages assessed against him as security for John Rogers, Sheriff of Southampton County, for the Taxes of 1786, the principal and interest of the same having been all paid.

June 19

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GEO. GOOSLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

I received your letter some days ago, informing me that the Executive were inclined to accede to my proposition for the purchase of the negroes in the Penitentiary. Upon inquiry of the Spanish Consul at this place, I find that all the ports of the Spanish West Indies are shut against Americans, and the admission of slaves from any other quarter than Africa, totally interdicted. I know of no other place where the negroes can be sold, and I shall, if the Executive think proper, be gladly released from the engagement.

June 24,  
Norfolk

Some port in the British Islands might afford a good sale, but the English Consul, knowing that these people are to be exported, and fearing that they may promote insurrection in the countries where sent, he is determined to give such information as shall prevent leave being given to land them.

I am, &c.

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Abram, a negro man slave, sentenced to death for conspiracy and insurrection.

July 1,  
Halifax  
County

1802.  
July 1,  
Halifax  
County

Bob, a slave, testified that Abram asked him to fight the white people. Abram said that on Friday night before Easter he would kill his own master, Wm. Smith, and on the next night meet the other colored men at Seven Islands.

Robin, brother of the prisoner, testified to the same effect. All whites were to be killed, and all blacks who did not join. They were to commence with any sort of arms they could get.

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#### MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 4,  
Penitentiary

Informing him that five convicts, on the 7th instant, made their escape from the building by removing the grate of a window, but were retaken within the plank inclosure.

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#### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF INSPECTORS OF THE PENITENTIARY.

July 12

State that they have not for some time been satisfied with the conduct of Martin Mims, keeper of the Penitentiary, and accuse him of disobeying or delaying to obey their orders; also that he has delayed paying the bills of the penitentiary when he had money in his hands, and that the following rules had either been not carried out or only partially so, viz: That each prisoner be credited with all work done by him; that the prisoners be kept steadily at labor; that the keeper or his assistants constantly visit the workshops during hours of labor; that the roll be called every morning; that the prisoners be made to preserve cleanliness in person and clothes, and various other regulations. They adopt a resolution to present the subject to the Executive unless the conduct of the keeper is at once amended, and recommend that the appointment of keeper be hereafter vested in the Board of Inspectors.

July 12,  
Mathews Co.

The County Court—present: Thomas Smith, Thomas Tabb, William Buckner, John D. Jarvis, Andrew Van Bibber, and Edmund S. Briggs, Gentlemen Justices—recommend James Van Bibber, Hunley Gayle, and Andrew Van Bibber for appointment as sheriff. Certified by John Patterson, clerk.

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#### JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 24

The foundation on which the boring mill for ordinance will be built, is solid rock, and has been excavated to the present time by Richmond stone cutters, to whom the stone was given. Asks whether he must employ hands and hasten the work.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asks an advance of \$40 to Robert Nelson, of Henrico, in payment for walnut plank purchased by the armory for musket and pistol stocks. 1802.  
July 24

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Has been lately informed by General Shee that no seasoned walnut timber suitable for gun-stocks can be obtained, and that there are no seasoned gun-stocks there, except in the United States Military stores, where are a large number. Recommends that the endeavor be made to purchase a few thousand of the largest stocks from the United States. July 24

PETER GUERRANT, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking a payment of \$1,000 or \$1,500 for timber furnished and framed for the public warehouse in Richmond. July 24,  
Richmond

JAMES WOOD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending the appointment of Dr. John H. Foushee as quarantine officer at Richmond. July 26,  
Richmond

WM. FULCHER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Offering to purchase the negroes confined in the Penitentiary at £80 each, and give bond to convey them outside the state, or will sell them for the state for a commission of  $33\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. July

*Report of the President and Directors of the Potomack Company to the Stockholders at Their Annual Meeting at Alexandria, the 2d day of August, 1802.*

Agreeably to the representations which we made at your last annual meeting, the Locks at the Great Falls were completely finished by the end of February; and from the experience since had, and the opinion of every person who has viewed them, there is every reason to believe that the whole of the work has been executed in a very substantial and durable manner, and in every respect likely to answer well the object August 2

1802.  
August 2

contemplated. Upon this event, it was generally expected that the Stock of the Company would immediately become productive to the holders, and we had no doubt of being able to lay before you at this meeting such a state of the Tolls as would yield a handsome dividend. We are sorry, however, to say that, notwithstanding in common years the river is now navigable from George's creek to tide-water without interruption during a considerable period of the year, and that there was certainly large quantities of Flour and other produce prepared and intended to have been sent down the river to market on the opening of the navigation at the Great Falls, such has been the remarkable state of the waters hitherto since the Locks were finished, in consequence of the total want of snow last winter in the upper country, and the rains then and since proving only very moderate and partial, that the river could only be used for transporting produce at short intervals after some of these partial rains; indeed, we are informed the oldest inhabitants do not remember of any former year wherein the Potomac in the spring season continued in so unfavorable a state for boating. From these circumstances the whole produce which passed the Great Falls since the Locks were finished, has yielded Tolls to the gross amount only of \$3,647 96-100 Dollars, of which you have herewith a particular statement, netting the sum of \$3,436 36-100 Dollars. We think it proper here to observe in case you should judge it advisable to make a Dividend at this period, that the said nett proceeds of Tolls added to the proportion of the Dividends on the six per cent. Stock, which was paid as interest for the time on the unredeemed principal thereof, amounts to 4,073 77-100 Dollars. This sum is the actual product or profit of the property of the Company, and will divide fully 5 55-100 per share, being at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum on the capital or original subscription of \$100 sterling per share, for the time the Locks at the Great Falls have been in operation. And it will be recollected, as was particularly stated in our former reports, that the Tolls received in the two years preceding August last, amounted to 4,772 62-100 Dollars after deducting the expense of collection, and that during the period in which these Tolls were collected, there was a sufficiency of other funds on hand and appropriated for the expenditure on the works then carrying on.

By the Treasurer's account now laid before you, it will appear that of the six per cent. stock of the United States remaining on hand at 3d August last, the date of our last report, 25,000 dollars (nominal amount) have been sold, which netted including dividends since drawn on the whole, exactly 21,465 24-100 dollars, and that of the funds which have come into the hands of the Treasurer since the last settlement of his and the balance of cash then in his possession, there has been expended—

On the works at the Great Falls, - - - - \$21,885

In repairs of the Locks and Canal at Little Falls and at differ-

ent places of the River, and other improvements in the bed		
of the river, - - - - -	2,433	1802. August 2
And sundry expenses attending the general Business of the		
Company, - - - - -	1,875	
	<hr/>	
In all, - - - - -	\$26,193	

The funds of the company still in possession of the President and Directors (exclusive of the 29 shares of stock of the company bought in as formerly stated.) amount at a fair valuation to 8,188 Doll'rs, as follows, viz:

5,000 (nominal principal) six per cent. stock standing on the books of the		
Treasury of the United States in name of the company, at 101 $\frac{1}{4}$ per		
cent., (being the current price at Philadelphia), on the unredeemed		
principal thereof is, - - - - -	\$4,204 31	
Cash in hands of the Treasurer, - - - - -	2,883 70	
	<hr/>	
	7,088 01	
Debts outstanding reckoned good, - - - - -	1,000 00	
	<hr/>	
	Dollars, 8,188 00	

The President and Directors being of opinion that the imprisonment of the bed of the River so as to render it as far as possible navigable at all seasons, is the object which now requires the principal attention of the Company, have employed two setts of Labourers of about twenty each, and have them now at work upon the River under respective Overseers and under the general superintendence of Mr. Yarbaugh. One sett commenced at the upper end of the canal at Little Falls to proceed upwards, and the other above the Great Falls in like manner. And should the state of the River for the remainder of the year prove favourable for such operations, they hope, before winter, the navigation between the two Falls will be placed in the situation desired, and also to accomplish the same improvement in it for a considerable part of the way from the Great Falls to the Shenando. When these hands are prevented from working on the River, they are employed in quarrying free stone and common rough stone, and Boating the same to the Locks at the Little Falls in order to save the loss of labour. This stone will be wanted for rebuilding the Locks there, as from their being constructed entirely of wood, the present Locks will not be serviceable much longer, but they can be rebuilt in this manner of these durable materials without great expence or much interruption to the navigation. For more particular information relative to these operations, we refer you to the Report of Mr. Yarbaugh herewith.

1802.  
August 2 From the best Estimate we can make, 5000 to 5500 Dollars will — required to defray the expence of carrying on this work till Xmas.

(Signed)

JAS. KEITH, President.  
JNO. MASON,  
JOHN LAIRD,  
Directors.

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WILLIAM BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 7 The enclosed papers will show the amount of sales of Public Tobacco on the 3d of July last, as well as the loss sustained by the Treasury thereby.

I am, &c.

Account sales of 77 hogsheads of Public Tobacco, 82,020 lbs.; Total receipts, \$2,308, less \$25, commission of Thomas Taylor, auctioneer.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 7 By the original plan of the Penitentiary building, it was designed that there should be an inscription over the entrance, and a stone was inserted for the purpose. As the scaffolding will soon be taken down, asks to be furnished with an inscription.

[This paper is endorsed, "To request Mr. Wythe."]

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ARCHIBALD ROANE, GOVERNOR OF TENNESSEE, TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 7, Your Excellency's letter of 20th May has been duly received. I regret Knoxville that the letter from the Commissioners of Virginia did not reach me at an earlier period. The day appointed by them as a time of meeting is perfectly agreeable to me, and I have no doubt will suit the Commissioners of Tennessee. I have sent a letter to the Commissioners of your State, proposing a place of meeting different from that formerly appointed; but, lest it should fail, I beg the favour of you also to apprise them that the Commissioners of this State will meet them at Abingdon on the first day of October next, to commence the business committed to them by the two States.

I am, &c.

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WILLIAM NELSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 8 Informing him that a considerable number of shells and four large beds for mortars are lying on the south bank of the Pamunkey river, in

a secluded part of Mr. Mann Page's low grounds, just above Hanover Town. Thinks they were landed there during the war.

1802.  
August 8

At a meeting of the Directors of the Dismal Swamp Canal Company, held this 11th day of August, 1802:

Ordered, That Thomas Newton be requested to draw on the Treasurer for one thousand dollars of the State's quota, agreeable to requisition of this Board.

S. SLAUGHTER,  
RO. BOUSH,  
JAS. HUNTER,  
Directors.

State of Maryland, Baltimore County, Sct.:

Be it remembered, that on this twelfth day of August, in the year eighteen hundred and two, personally appeared before me, the subscriber, Chief Justice of the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery, for Baltimore County, John Murphy, who being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, depose and saith: That Newell Walton on the second day of August, in the year 1802, with force and arms at Baltimore County, in the State of Maryland, took into his possession as slaves, three freemen, natives of the East Indies, to wit: Tillah, Jacob, and Joe, and forcibly carried the said three persons as his slaves to Caroline County, in the State of Virginia, and that the said Newell Walton is now in Spotylvania County, in the said State of Virginia.

JOHN MURPHY.

Sworn and subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid.

WALTER DORSEY,  
Chief Justice of the Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery for Baltimore County.

FRANCIS BROOKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having seen a Letter from Judge Dorsey, of the State of Maryland, stating that arrangements were making there to Demand of the Executive of this State that a certain Newell Walton, confined in the Jail Here under the charge of stealing three East Indians, or purchasing them as Slaves, knowing them to be free, be Delivered up for trial in that State under the 2d section of the 4th article of the Constitution of the United States, I have thought proper to Transmit you the enclosed affidavit for the consideration of the Executive, and at the request of the prisoner,

August 12,  
Fredericks-  
burg

1802.  
August 12,  
Fredericks-  
burg

who wishes to be tried by the laws of Virginia, administered within its Limits, to submit to the Executive whether his Case can be brought under the section and article of the Constitution referred to. You will oblige me by giving as early an answer to this Letter as the subject will admit of.

I am, &c.

August 12th, 1802.—This day William Randall made oath before me, a magistrate of the corporation of Fredericksburg, that on the 3d instant, at Gadsby's Tavern, in the Town of Alexandria, he was present when a certain Nathan Walker, of Baltimore, Delivered to Newell Walton, now confined in the Jail of Fredericksburg, three Asiatics as negroes and slaves; that the said Randall was one of the witnesses to the Bill of Sale; that he understood from the parties while in Baltimore, where for the first time he saw Newell Walton. that the three men said to be negroes and slaves were to be Delivered by the said Walker to the said Newell on this side of the Potomac; that he travelled with the said Newell Walton from Alexandria, who was in possession of the three men purchased as aforesaid, untill they were stopped in the county of Caroline by a Constable sent on from Baltimore for that purpose; after which, believing as he was a witness to the Bill of Sale, his presence would be necessary, he accompanied the said Newell Walton back to Fredericksburg on his way to Baltimore, who determined to return there to get back his money from Walker, but was apprehended and committed to the Jail of Fredericksburg; that the three men were Brought in the public stage without the Smallest Degree of Secrecy, and the Deponent Believes under the fullest conviction that they were slaves.

WILLIAM RANDALL. .

Corporation of Fredericksburg, To-wit:

Sworn to before me. .

W. DRUMMOND.

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THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 13,  
Norfolk

With the advice of the Mayor and aldermen, has directed that all vessels coming from the West India and Bahama Islands, and from Baltimore and Philadelphia, should bring to below the port for examination by a physician, for which duty he has continued Dr. Read in office. Colonel Davies, the collector, and the commanding officer of the fort will give their assistance to prevent introduction of disease. Is sure that the yellow fever is always imported. The town continues very healthy, except children, who have the measles; of these has only heard of two dying in five weeks past.



JOHN F. MERCER, GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Requisition for Newell Walton, charged with forcibly carrying from Maryland freemen as his slaves.

1802.  
August 13,  
Annapolis

[Endorsed "the Board direct the delivery of the s'd Newell Walton to Mr. Wilson, who was appointed agent to Receive him."]

C. BINNS, CLERK OF LOUDOUN COUNTY TO THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL.

Has been informed that Colonel John Alexander of Loudon, had in 1778 and 1781 been appointed by the Governor and Council, agent for the heirs or supposed heirs of Jonathan Monkhouse dece'd, in opposition to an attempt to escheat the lands. Wishes a certified copy of Alexander's appointment.

August 17,  
Leesburg

David Lambert writes to the Governor, stating that he has a pair of pistols said to be those with which Mr. George Prosser killed himself, and asking what disposition to make of them.

August 20

Dr. John H. Foushee, quarantine officer at Richmond, to the Governor, asking information as to the manner and under whose direction accommodation is to be made for sailors who may arrive in port with malignant disease.

August 21

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Announces the death of Mr. George, who on the night of the 17th instant, was murdered either by his own hand or some person unknown. Numerous applications have been made for the places he held, as assistant superintendent of the erection of public buildings and store keeper of the Penitentiary. Thinks that for the present it is unnecessary to appoint any one, as the work can be done by the employees.

August 21,  
Richmond

FONTAINE MAURY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Some little time ago three French ships of war arrived at this port from Gaudaloupe, via Carthage, where they touched with the view to sell or otherwise dispose of a number of renegade negroes they have on

August 21,  
New York

1802.  
August 21,  
New York

board, but the Spanish Government not permitting them to be landed, they proceeded hither and dispatched a vessel to Gen. Le Clerc for further instructions as to the mode of disposing of them, which they daily expect to receive. The number of these unfortunate half-starved wretches, already arrived and momentarily expected in the other ships of war, amount to 1,500, and the best information I can collect, after having been at due pains to procure it, I have little doubt but they will attempt to dispose of them along the Southern coast in a clandestine manner. They have in many instances offered them for sale in this city, in open violation of the laws. Sixty of them have been taken sick and thrown into the Marine Hospital, and daily additions may well be expected to that number.

Although this information may not in every respect be correct, yet I believe it so, and in consequence of the extreme agitation of the public mind I have deemed it expedient to impart it to you, with a view that you may make such use of it as you may think necessary and proper to guard against a measure which must highly endanger the peace and tranquillity of the State you represent, and those south of it.

I am, &c.

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WILLIAM DAVIES TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 24,  
Norfolk

Capt. Drummond, just arrived from Charleston, reports that on his passage, two days ago, he spoke off Cape Hatteras a French frigate, from Cape Francois, full of negroes, which appeared to be steering for the capes of Virginia, and that there was a report at Charleston that it was the determination of the French government to transport from St. Domingo such blacks as had borne arms against the French.

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THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 28,  
Norfolk

If there are any condemned negroes to be transported, there is an opportunity to sell about 30 to a place from which there will be no danger of their returning to Virginia. Desires to be informed. The town continues healthy.

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FRANCIS WALKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 28,  
Albemarle

I send you a map of the line run by T. W. and D. Smith from Steep Rock creek to the Tennessee river, and our trip from the Falls of Ohio up the Mississippi. If any explanation in my power may be wanting, you have only to command me.

Mrs. Walker and myself beg you will accept our best wishes for yourself and family, and hope you will call some convenient time to see us as you pass.

1802.  
August 28,  
Albemarle

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JAMES CURITON TO THE GOVERNOR.

William R. Curtis departed this life about 12 o'clock last night without will. He has no relation whatever. He married a Miss Fitzhugh six or seven years ago, who departed this life in about 18 months after her intermarriage, leaving no child. She brought to the Estate a number of negroes; the rest of the Estate consisting of land, negroes, stock, &c., came to the said William R. Curtis by purchase; the whole Estate is worth three or four thousand pounds. Peter Williams the clerk of the court of this county, is or was the Escheator of this county; his state of health has prevented him from executing the duties of his clerk's office for the last 12 months, nor can he at this time execute the office of Escheator. I have thought proper to make the aforesaid statement to you in behalf of the Commonwealth, being sensible that you will take every proper step on the occasion. Any further information that may be required, should be duly attended to by application to me.

Sept. 1,  
Prince  
George

I am, &c.

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THOS. UNDERWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Cloth Linen, &c., which was purchased last fall for the Guard, is all made up, Capt. Quarrier has enlisted nine men since the 16th of July and they are in great want of their clothing.

Sept. 5,  
Richmond

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Mr. Fletcher is desirous that we should make an effort to sell the negroes he has purchased, to some other person, but in the event of our not succeeding, he will certainly execute a bond, with Capt. Bell as security, in a week.

Sept. 6

I desire that the experiment be made.

S. TYLER.

We concur.

ALEX'R MCRAE,  
JNO. WHITE,  
W. FOUSHEE,  
JNO. PENDLETON.

## THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1802.  
Sept. 8,  
Norfolk

Your letter enclosing a list of negroes in the Penitentiary I received. The price offered by Mr. Fulcher is nearly double the limits which were stipulated for by a gentleman in Havannah. It will therefore be best to take his offer.

Mr. Livingston, the Mayor of New York, is now at this place. I shall have an opportunity of conversing with him on Friday on the subject of the French ships with negroes on board. I hope none of them will come into this State. Should they arrive, your directions shall be followed. There is not the least chance of disposing of negroes in any of the W. India Islands that go from this, they being suspected of being the worst kind. Those carried to the Spaniards cannot go from this, but must from some of the Islands to Carthagina and along that Shore. The French, I have heard, made an attempt to dispose of those brought to New York, but were not permitted to land in the Spanish settlements, and should it be known any condemned Negroes were carried from this or any other place, they would not be permitted to sell.

Some few deaths have happened, but it cannot be called sickly, and no one is alarmed at it; the very cool weather and the lateness of the season will prevent any disease lasting long. Your Excellency shall have information of any worth noticing here, especially if the French should arrive among us with negroes.

Thursday, the 9. I this morning came into Town and hear that very few are sick, but those with violent bilious fevers and not contagious; confined mostly to strangers, as last year.

I am, &c.

## THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 17,  
Norfolk

I now enclose Doctor Read's return of vessels visited by him; his report gives a full statement of them. Some strangers have been taken with the fever common to the season and several have died, but there is no appearance of contagion in it that I learn of. The town is as healthy among the inhabitants and prudent people as I ever knew it, with very few exceptions. I have been out of town for eight or ten days, and this morning came in, and find the report as above stated to be as correct as I could wish.

I hope your Excellency has got the wine safe and in good order. On Monday next, I intend visiting the canal, and shall proceed on to the Carolina side also. On my return I will forward you an account of what is doing there.

I am, &c.

WILLIAM BERKELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Permit me to request the favor of you to remind the Executive of the necessity of appointing a committee to count the cash in the Treasury on the first of October, as I suppose this will be the last time they will meet before that day.

1802.  
Sept. 18,  
Treasury

I received a verbal message that the three items which were marked in the account I sent up were objected to. I now send another account with the former, leaving them out, although the one for punch at the sale of public Tobacco was particularly sanctioned by the Executive having allowed the same sum in my account presented last September, and the Almanack the year before, both of which accounts are now sent up for their inspection. A Resolution of December, 1790, authorizes the Executive to allow all expenses attending the sale of public Tobacco.

I am, &c.

PETER GUERRANT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking for an advance of one thousand dollars on his contract for the Timber of the Public Warehouse and framing the same.

Sept. 18,  
Richmond

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of the prices at which Slate and Tile could be bought in New York and Philadelphia, viz:

Sept. 18,  
Richmond

In Philadelphia, Slate	12½x6½ inches,	\$15 per M.
" " Do.	16 x7¾	\$30 per M.
" New York, Do.	16 x8	\$25 per M.
" " " Do.	12 x6	\$13 per M.
" " " Tile,		\$40 per M.

The Attorney for the District composed of the counties of Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, and Prince William respectfully represents to the Executive that the public justice is likely to suffer for want of a jailor to take charge of the new county jail, which will be the only legal receptacle for prisoners after the commissioners shall issue the advertisement required by law, which I presume from information will, if not already done, be immediately published.

Sept. 20

## BENJ. PARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1802.  
Sept. 20,  
Fredericks-  
burg

I take the liberty of informing you that in consequence of a malignant fever which prevails in Norfolk, Baltimore and Philadelphia, I yesterday put the Quarantine Law in force here, conformably to the Act of the Legislature of 1795.

For some time past I have paid strict attention to all vessels coming from those places, which until very lately have been but slightly affected by the fever, but since their situations have become somewhat alarming from the best information I can get, I have found it impossible to perform the duties of my office day and night, and have engaged two men as a guard, whom I shall continue as such until I have the honor of receiving instructions from you.

I am, &c,

## ANDREW ELLICOTT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 26

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 10th, and am sorry it is out of my power to give a satisfactory answer to your enquiries. The only document which I possess relative to the boundary between the States of Virginia and North Carolina, is a map or chart of the line as traced by Walker and Henderson, but is unaccompanied by the observations made use of by those gentleman for the determination of the parrallel of 36° 30' N. Lat. The accuracy of this work I have always considered at best but doubtful, owing to the mode and instruments made use of by those gentlemen, and can have no doubt but the boundary will be found several minutes erroneous, if it should ever be examined with instruments of a proper construction.

If a map of the line would be of any use, you shall with pleasure be furnished with a copy of that in my possession.

I am, &c.

Sept. 28

At a Court of Directors of the Hospital for the maintenance and cure of persons of unsound mind, held at the said Hospital in Williamsburg the 28th day of September, 1802:

Ordered, that it be certified to the Executive that there is now a vacancy in the said Court of Directors occasioned by the death of George Carter.

A copy—Teste:

WILL. RUSSELL, C. C. D.

Mr. Andrews recommended Anthony Robinson.

At a Court of Directors of the Hospital for the maintenance and cure of persons of unsound mind, held at the said Hospital in Williamsburg, the 28th day of September, 1802.

1802.  
Sept. 28

Ordered, that the Treasurer of the Hospital apply to the Executive for a warrant from the Auditor of Public Accounts on the Treasurer of the State for sixteen hundred dollars.

A Copy—Teste:

WILL. RUSSELL, C. C. D.

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JAMES BENNETT TO THE GOVERNOR.

In consequence of your Excellency's letter to me of the 14th April in reply to mine of 7th same, I caused to be made two Gun Carriages with Limbers and Harness complete. They are substantially made, and will, with due care, last a long time.

Sept. 29,  
Norfolk

Inclosed I now take the liberty of handing an account of the expense attending the business, and also for a temporary repair put upon the old carriages during a time of alarm, together with the cost of amunition necessarily procured—the former amounting to £48 and the latter to £5.9d, which I hope may prove satisfactory, as I used every care in my power to procure the work to be done well and upon the lowest terms.

I am, &c.

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John Linton, Sheriff of Prince William, solicits the appointment of Jailor at Hay Market when the Jail of the District Court is removed from Dumfries to Hay Market.

Sept. 30

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

The walls of the Foundry house at our Armory have been delayed until a decision of the Executive respecting Mr. Foxall's coming here. As it is getting late in the season for brick-laying, I beg that you will please to decide respecting Mr. Foxall's coming to Richmond or my going to see him.

Oct. 2,  
Richmond

I beg leave to refer you to my letters to you on the subject, and also Mr. Foxall's letter to me on the subject, which are now in the Council chamber.

I am, &c.

## J. CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1802.  
Oct. 2

I have had a few muskets brought up from our manufactory for your inspection, in order that they may undergo a fair comparison with those of other manufactories. I have had a British Tower piece, a Charleville musket, a musket of those imported by Swan, one of McCormick's, one of Haslett's, one of Miles's, and one of those made by Wheeler brought down from the Roof of the Capitol in order that those of our own manufacture may be compared with them.

I am, &amp;c.

## REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE TREASURY.

Oct. 2

The Treasurer being enjoined to close the accounts of his office on the 30th day of September annually, we, the underwritten (being thereto appointed by the Executive at the request of the Treasurer), repaired to the Treasury on the morning of the first of October in order to ascertain the amount of money and facilities actually in the Treasury, received on public account and constituting the balance due therefrom on the 30th September, 1802. Having examined and carefully counted and weighed the specie, we find it amounts to eighty-seven thousand five hundred and twenty-one dollars and fifty cents.

Treasury, October 2d, 1802.

J. PENDLETON.

JAMES WOOD.

*Disbursements and Discounts Made at the Treasury of Virginia Between the First Day of January and the Thirty-first Day of March, inclusive.*

Expenses of General Assembly,	-	-	-	-	-	\$37,675	39
Expenses of the Lunatic Hospital,	-	-	-	-	-	1,500	00
Interest on the Public Debt,	-	-	-	-	-	4,510	38
Salaries to the officers of the Militia,	-	-	-	-	-	1,431	16
Expenses of the trial of criminals in the County and District Courts,	-	-	-	-	-	1,742	63
Slaves executed and transported,	-	-	-	-	-	2,833	32
Expenses of guards in District and County Jails,	-	-	-	-	-	178	74
Salaries to the officers of Government,	-	-	-	-	-	15,969	98
Warrants to Commissioners of the Revenue,	-	-	-	-	-	2,523	25
Warrants to pensioners,	-	-	-	-	-	1,564	15
Expenses of the Richmond guard,	-	-	-	-	-	2,458	65
For completing the Manufactory of Arms,	-	-	-	-	-	6,623	64
Expenses of removing criminals to the Penitentiary,	-	-	-	-	-	10	56



Expenses of criminals confined in the Penitentiary, - -	2,271 68	1802.
For completing the Penitentiary, - - - - -	2,404 15	Oct. 2
Expenses of public warehouses, - - - - -	748 90	
Public services of District Court Clerks, - - - - -	301 00	
Contracts for arms heretofore entered into by the Executive,	7,695 00	
Contingent Fund Warrants—		
Warrants for appropriations prior to 1801, - - -	102 89	
Warrants on the fund arising from Militia fines, - -	58 00	
Artificers' pay, tools and materials for the Manufactory, -	135 50	
Payments not specifically provided for, - - - - -	2,857 45	
Certificates discovered at the Treasury, - - - - -	451 62	
	<u>\$98,146 66</u>	

We the committee appointed by the Honorable Executive, having examined the accounts of the Treasurer for disbursements and discounts made at the Treasury between the first day of January and the 31st of March, 1802, (both inclusive) find the same as within stated, amount to ninety-eight thousand one hundred and forty-six dollars and sixty-six cents, which is certified to the Auditor of Public Accounts agreeable to the Act of Assembly entitled "An Act for reforming certain public bonds and for other purposes."

Given under our hands this 12th day of June, 1802.

J. PENDLETON,  
W. FOUSHEE.

Petition of William Hipkins to the Governor, praying extra pay for his service in making cartridges for the public guard of which he is a member. Oct. 4, Richmond

BENJAMIN PARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

A young man just off a voyage from Savanna in Georgia, died on the 3rd instant, and Dr. French is of opinion he died of the yellow fever. Has taken every precaution to prevent infection. Oct. 6, Fredericksburg

COLONEL JOHN P. HUNGERFORD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending that Stuart and William Bankhead and William Thompson, be given commissions (in accordance with their request) to raise a company of light infantry in the 111th regiment of militia in Westmoreland Co., which he commands. Oct. 9

## C. GORE TO THOMAS JEFFERSON.

1802.  
Oct. 10,  
London,  
England

In consequence of being left by Mr. King in charge with the affairs of the United States, and of his desire that I should inspect all letters directed to him, I opened that from yourself under date of the 13th July, and which was received on the 13th ult.

This Sir, I must pray you to accept as an apology for having broken its seal, and if my subsequent conduct shall appear an intrusion, you will do me the justice to impute it to the most respectful motives, combined with an earnest desire to promote the object of the letter, if in no other way, at least in obtaining and forwarding all such information as could be procured here, and might tend to advance the wise and humane plan you have so benevolently contemplated of opening a path for the emancipation of the Blacks on such terms as may prove beneficial to themselves and not injurious to others.

I was the more induced to act in this business from the belief that Mr. King would not be here to attain any information in season to reach the U. States until late in the winter.

Lord Hawkesbury, to whom I thought it proper first to mention the subject, professed a warm desire to do everything in his power to promote your views, but at the same time said the affair must rest with the Directors of the Sierra Leone Company, and that he was really fearful their late experience had been such as to deter them from the admission of characters like those alluded to.

I then took an opportunity of conferring with Mr. Thornton, chairman of the court of directors, and stated to him the resolution of the Legislature of Virginia and your idea of the best mode of carrying the same into effect, with such arguments, so far as I could think of any, in addition to those contained in your letter, to show that the admission of the Blacks from the U. States might under such regulations as wisdom and prudence should prescribe, prove an addition of strength and benefit to their colony. But the establishment has suffered much from the Maroons, who have been permitted to go there from Jamaica, and the Directors consider that the rise of their colony has rather been impeded than advanced by the Blacks from Nova Scotia. They have lately been obliged to apply to Parliament for pecuniary aid, and to ask assistance of troops to keep in check the restless and disturbed spirits already there. The military force is not so great as they wish'd, and they entertain jealous apprehensions if it be sufficient to protect the well-disposed and repress the constant disposition manifested in many of the colonists to revolt and overturn the existing Government.

These reasons appear to have great weight in Mr. Thornton's mind against the policy of admitting such settlers as would be most likely to come from the U. States. He has, however, come to no determination

against the measure, but promises to advise with his friends and see if any expedient can be devised by which the dangers to be feared from acceding to the proposal may be guarded against.

1802.  
Oct. 10,  
London,  
England

It is possible, that on Mr. King's return, he may be able to suggest such reasons as shall induce the Directors to lend a favorable ear to the plan. He is intimate with some of the most influential of them, and if aught can be added to the strong motives they profess, and I have no doubt sincerely, to do everything exceptable to the exalted character at whose instance the proposition has been made, it may be expected from the personal influence of this gentleman. Although from the considerations mentioned, which with others are to be seen in the state of the colony, as described in the memorial to Parliament, and the report of the —, I do not think there is much reason to hope that an incorporation of the blacks of the U. States with those at Sierra Leone, can be reconciled in the minds of the Directors, to the safety and prosperity of the establishment.

I am indebted to Mr. Thornton for the papers above referred, and which you will find gives an accurate statement of that colony, the evils most to be guarded against, with the means thought necessary for its security, and the expenses of the establishment. As these papers are scarce, and contain information that may be valuable on this subject, I have taken the liberty to enclose them with this letter.

Should an occasion occur which may promise advantage to the proposal from any endeavours of mine, you may rely on their being cheerfully and faithfully exerted to that end; and if further information can be procured which, in my judgment, may be useful in this interesting business before the arrival of Mr. King, I pray you, Sir, to be assured that I shall derive great pleasure in forwarding it.

I am. &c.

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ROBERT NEWMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking money to aid him in exploring the far West; intends to undertake the "most hazardous enterprise, perhaps, ever undertaken by man"; has a "heart proud of the dangers to be encountered."

Oct. 16,  
Maryland

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*Memorandum of Negroes Sentenced for Transportation and Sent to the Penitentiary for Safe Keeping.*

Ben, from Chesterfield. Greenock, from Prince George. Frank, James, Matthews. Sawney, Moses, Warwick. Calabar, Spotsylvania. Lewis, Patrick, Joe, and Ben, King and Queen. Tom and Glasgow, from Han-

Oct. 12

1802. over. James, Williamsburg. Arthur, Henrico. Ned, Norfolk. Bob,  
Oct. 12 Southampton.

The above slaves were delivered to Wm. Fulcher the 17th of October, 1802, by order of James Monroe, Governor of Virginia.

MARTIN MIMS,  
Keeper of the Penitentiary.

WILLIAM DABNEY, CLERK OF THE PENITENTIARY, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 15, I have to communicate to you that the period for which the following  
Richmond gentlemen were appointed Inspectors of the Jail and Penitentiary house, expired on the 14th instant, to wit: Samuel Parsons, Jacob J. Cohen, William Duval, William Berkeley, and Thomas Ladd. I believe that those gentlemen have no objection to serving another twelve months, should the Executive think proper to reappoint them.

I must also observe to you that Major Dunscomb was appointed at the time the above gentlemen were, and by his death there was a vacancy.

I am, &c.

ALEXANDER QUARRIER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 30 As the flag and standard of the Public Guard do not agree with the flag of the United States, I have to request of you whether it is to be altered. If so, you will please to give your orders.

Bill of Peter Wilkinson for the board of eleven Indians for seven days, meals, grog, and drams, £19.13.0.

ALEXANDER QUARRIER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 1 Asking the approval of the Executive to his sending Lieut. Underwood to Kentucky to see to the payment of taxes on their lands in that State, promising to attend to his military duties in his absence.

PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 3, I have received information of some important evidence in the case  
Richmond of the Commonwealth vs. Read. This information I did not obtain until this morning. It is now too late to send subpoenas by any ordinary

conveyance time enough for the next term, when the case will be tried. I wish to submit to you whether the Executive could send by express process to obtain these witnesses, as I am extremely anxious that the cause should be tried at the next term. The subpoenaing of this additional evidence is rendered more necessary as Seth Foster has written me word that he cannot possibly attend on account of indisposition.

1802.  
Nov. 3,  
Richmond

I am, &c.

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THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I now enclose Doct'r Read's full Report of all the vessels he visited since I wrote you. Doct'r Reade has informed me that he was at considerable expense in hiring boats to go on board vessels, an account of which he will inform you of. I am well satisfied with the Doctor's having done the duty as well as any other could, and must leave the compensation to your Excellency and Council to fix.

Nov. 4,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

*Synopsis of Dr. Read's Report of Vessels Visited as Superintendent of Quarantine in the Port of Norfolk from Aug. 10th to Oct. 24th.*

Number of vessels visited, 134, from the following ports, viz: Baltimore, St. Augustine, Bermuda, Martinique, Port-au-Prince, Barbadoes, Cuba, St. Thomas, Jamaica, Antigua, Aaranne, Philadelphia, Great Bartholomews, Leghorn, Port Republica, Trinidad, Madeira, Havana, Cape Francois, Surinam, Laguyra, New Providence, Grenada, St. Vincent's, Charleston, Cadiz, Dominique, Port Antonio.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of the arrival from New York of the slate ordered for the Public Warehouse, and recommending the advance of fifteen hundred dollars on account for the same.

Nov. 8,  
Richmond

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JAMES CAMPBELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

I had the honor to receive your letter of the 9th current, requesting me to state the progress which has been made in improving the navigation of the Appomattox river, for the satisfaction of the honorable General Assembly. In compliance therewith, I have the pleasure to inform your Excellency, that upwards of one hundred shares being sub-

Nov. 9,  
Petersburg

1802.  
Nov. 9,  
Petersburg

scribed, a meeting of a large majority of the subscribers was held on the 15th day of May last, when the company was legally organized, and since that period a contract has been made with a person of considerable property and experience in such business for deepening the channel of the river, in conformity to the act of Assembly, so that vessels drawing seven feet water may easily and readily pass in all seasons of the year, which he is to have completed before the 1st of June, 1804.

When this is done the exportation of merchandize will be greatly facilitated here. Vessels of the size usually employed in the coasting trade may come up to Petersburg, and the trade with the other States being promoted and extended, will have some degree of tendency to cement the happy Union formed by the United States. Permit me, sir, further to observe that many reasons occur to induce a belief that the time will arrive with no common rapidity (the Union being preserved) when the trade between the different parts of this Continent and Islands adjacent, will become the most important and beneficial of any to the citizens of this country.

I am, &c.

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THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 10

I forwarded your letter to the President of the Dismal S. Canal Co., Robt. Andrews, Esq., in Williamsburg. I am sorry to say but little progress has been made this summer, owing to rainy weather in some measure. Mr. Andrews, I have no doubt, will give in his report as President.

I am, &c.

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ST. GEORGE TUCKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 12,  
Richmond

Having been for some years engaged in endeavoring to procure a complete collection of the Laws of Virginia without having been able to effect it, I take the liberty of requesting that I may be furnished with any supernumerary copies of them that may be found among the Council books.

A motive to this step is the earnest desire that I entertain of being able at some future day to make such a collection, when completed, public.

I am, &c.

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Virginia—to-wit:

At a General Court held in Richmond the 13th day of November, 1802, John Dunlop, a native of England, this day proved to the satisfac-

tion of the Court that he has resided five years at least within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States, and one year at least immediately preceeding the date hereof within this State; that he is a person of good character and well-disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States; and having taken the oath required by the act of Congress, entitled "an act to establish an uniform rule of naturalization, and to repeal the acts heretofore passed on that subject," is admitted a citizen of the said United States.

1802.  
Nov. 13

A Copy—Teste:

WILSON ALLEN, C. G. C.

Virginia—to-wit:

At a General Court held in Richmond the 13th day of June, 1799, Robert Walker, James Dunlop, ju'r, John Chalmers, and Thomas Colquhoun, merchants, natives of Scotland, this day came into Court and declared on oath that they resided within and under the jurisdiction of the United States prior to the twenty-ninth day of January, 1795, and have continued so to reside ever since; that they have also resided one year at least within the Commonwealth of Virginia; that they will support the Constitution of the United States, and that they do absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to George the Third, King of Great Britain; and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the said Robert Walker, James Dunlop, jun'r, John Chalmers, and Thomas Colquhoun during such residence, have behaved themselves as men of good moral characters, attached to the Constitution of the United States, and well-disposed to the good order and happiness of the same, they are admitted as citizens of the said United States.

Nov. 13

A Copy—Teste:

WILSON ALLEN, C. G. C.

The Treasurer could not pay Mr. Davis's warrant for fifteen hundred dollars, drawn on the appropriation for the expences of the Public Warehouse, because a balance of four hundred and twenty-two dollars and thirty-nine cents only remained in that fund at the time the warrant was presented for payment.

Nov. 13

The Treasurer is of opinion that the Law establishing the Warehouse on the Canal was repealed from the passage of the last appropriation Law as to the payments necessary for its completion.

## MICAHAH DAVIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

1802.  
Nov. 13

With submission to the Governor, I beg leave to remark that the Treasurer refuses to pay any money to warrant drawn on the fund appropriated for Defraying the Expence of the Tob'o Warehouse, saying that the said fund is exhausted, and therefore beg the interposition of the Executive in the premises, as the injury resulting to me will be very great.

I am, &c.

## SAGUARESA, INDIAN CHIEF, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 15,  
Windsor  
N. C.

The Great Spirit has been pleased, so far, to favor my undertaking to collect the scattered remnants of my people, and has brought me to this State on my journey with safety.

I expect to see you again at Richmond early in January, and hope it will be convenient for you to have my business laid before your Legislature in such manner as that it may be decided in a short time after my arrival.

I am, &c.

The land belonging to the Pamunkey Indians has never been vested in trustees *to be sold*, as was supposed. The right is still in the survivors of the tribe, and from the information of Mr. Gregory, one of the delegates from King William county, it is still enjoyed by them. It appears that trustees were originally appointed for the protection and preservation of this property for them. All the original trustees (except one) being dead in the year 1786, an act was then passed for appointing new trustees. Another act was passed in the year 1798 authorizing the trustees to make by-laws, rules and regulations for the government of said Indians, and further empowering such of them as should be above the age of twenty-one years to supply vacancies happening in the body of trustees by electing others in their stead. These are all the laws which appear to have been passed on the subject. From which it will appear that any benefit which may be derived from an interest in said land is to be derived from residence and occupation only.

The land belonging to the Nottoway tribe of Indians was, on the petition of the survivors of the tribe, by an act passed in 1792, directed to be sold by trustees, in whom it was vested for that purpose; and the money for which it was sold, further directed to be applied to the purchase of public securities bearing an interest, which was to be applied yearly towards their support; and if the interest should prove insufficient to that end, a part of the principal was from time to time to be applied to make up the deficiency. The land, it is said, was certainly sold under



this act, but whether the money has been properly applied or not is at present unknown here, there being no one from whom information on that head can be had. It appears clearly, however, that no Indian can be entitled to any interest in said land; or in the money for which it was sold, unless he be acknowledged by the survivors of the tribe in this State to be a member, or otherwise satisfactorily prove himself to be one.

1802.  
Nov. 15,  
Windsor  
N. C.

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W. FOUSHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeably to your request of the 4th inst., respecting the situation of the works under the Acts incorporating the James River Company and subsequent thereto, I beg leave to observe that on the 26th of November last, we stated the subject pretty minutely in our report of that date, and to which we beg leave to refer; since which an annual general meeting of the Company has been held, and under its direction (in the year past ending in July) a dividend of six per cent. on the original stock of £42,000 has been made. The state of the Funds will justify a similar, perhaps a higher Dividend in the current year, if the general meeting shall so direct—at the same time support the establishment, and go on in favorable seasons with all the improvements required as the laws now stand.

Nov. 15,  
Richmond

In the last season, the improvement on the bed of the River from a considerable distance above Lynchburg down to the City of Richmond has been carried on, and we believe with good effect. That part of the bed of the river through the mountains and up to Crow's Ferry, having been executed in a great measure in the preceding seasons, so as now to render the navigation from the highest point enjoined on the Company, down to the Basin in a tolerable state of water, safe and easy.

'Tis with great pleasure we now consider the prospect of some remuneration to the Public, as well as to the individuals for a hazardous and expensive undertaking, as brightening very considerably, and the great object and extensive inland navigation nearly completed, of between two and three hundred miles into the heart of this country.

On behalf of the Board of Directors.

I am, sir, &c.

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MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your letter of the 15th inst has been duly received, and I hasten to give you all the information I possess upon the different inquiries there proposed.

Nov. 18,  
Penitentiary

You 1st request a statement of the number of criminals who have

1802.  
Nov. 18,  
Penitentiary

been sent to the Penitentiary from each successive term of the District Courts, since the establishment of the Institution. In answer, the following statement will be found correct:

From the Spring term of 1800 there were received,	-	-	-	6
" " Fall term " " " " " "	-	-	-	15
" " Spring " " 1801 " " " "	-	-	-	19
" " Fall " " " " " " "	-	-	-	14
" " Spring " " 1802 " " " "	-	-	-	23
" " Fall " " " " " " "	-	-	-	21

Making in the whole, - - - - - 98

One object of this enquiry being to ascertain "whether the number of convicts has increased or diminished of late," it may be necessary to observe that prior to the September term of 1800, all persons charged with criminal offences were dealt with according to pre-existing laws; unless after conviction, the convict prayed the benefit of the Penitentiary Law. Many petty offenders perhaps preferred the Ignominy of public punishment to the slow disgrace of Imprisonment, and were sentenced according to existing statutes, from which circumstance the number received at this term was comparatively smaller than at those immediately succeeding.

2ndly. "Has any convict who has been once discharged been sent back?" I have the satisfaction of answering this question in the negative. No such case has yet occurred.

3rd. The number of discharged, since the operation of the law, amounts to twenty-six; all of whom, except the invalid convicts who were unable to labour, have acquired some useful trade, which, if diligently followed, will enable them to gain reputable livelihoods. The short period for which petty offenders of the lowest class is confined, may sometimes form exceptions. The term of six months not being sufficient for a mean capacity to acquire any trade.

4th. One man only has escaped who has been confined in the penitentiary, and this happened in the infancy of the Institution, and before the Building was in such a state of completion as to insure safe keeping. Indeed I consider that absolute security from escapes can never be expected unless all communication from without is effectually prevented. The windows of the cells having an outward exposure will be subject to the curiosity of visitors and afford an easy inlet to whatever may assist the Ingenuity of the convict in effecting his elopement. A temporary enclosure since the loss of Whitson has prevented outward intercourse, and has in all probability been our greatest security from future escapes or even attempts to escape.

5th. The conduct of convicts after confinement, being an object of your enquiry, I take pleasure in informing you that although with the greater number, mild treatment succeeds best, yet with some, good effects appear

to have resulted from punishment and humiliation. In many cases apparent resignation and conviction of the justice of their sentence, have produced a laudable spirit of industries and an adherence to the regulations of the Institution.

1802.  
Sept. 18,  
Penitentiary

The ministry of the neighborhood have sometimes visited the prison, and I have found their spiritual admonitions listened to with attention and concern, and I feel no doubt but that many of the discharged convicts and the community, will reap the happiest effects from mild and well timed punishment within our walls. There may be found some whom punishment may not effect nor shame reclaim, yet it may be hoped that a continuance of their confinement may be of salutary consequence and induce such a line of conduct as may promote their future welfare.

The mode of treatment which I have been obliged to pursue has been generally regulated by the conduct of the prisoner. Mild measures are in most instances best calculated to answer the purposes of reformation, and the most effectually to promote a spirit of industry. But on the other hand, obstinacy and perverseness of Disposition require a more rigid and determined discipline, and I have therefore reported for punishment, and have been myself as severe as my powers would allow.

One tenth part of the convicts are perhaps of the latter description; the remainder experience all the mildness which the nature of their situation admits, and these, it may be hoped, will after their confinement, be industrious artizans and useful citizens.

I am, &c.

Commonwealth of Virginia,

To Micajah Davis,

Dr.

To am't of account for 353,500 slate for Public Warehouse, including commissions, &c., - - - - - \$3,828 45½

Nov. 19

Cr.

By previous warrant for \$1,500 and sundry other Credits, \$25 00, - - - - - 1,525 00

\$2,303 45½

Add 500 Slate in Invoice omitted, - - - - - 4 50

Bal. due, - - - - - \$2,307 95½

Add am't credited as above but not paid by the Treasurer, - 1,500 00

Am't of warrant ordered by Council, - - - - - \$3,807 95½

JAMES KEITH TO THE GOVERNOR.

I was duly honored with your letter through the hands of Col. Deneale. I immediately made the several members of the Board acquainted with

Nov. 24,  
Alexandria

1802.  
Nov. 24,  
Alexandria

the contents, but from the sickness of one of the members and the absence of two others, a Board could not be formed till yesterday, when your Excellency's letter was laid before the members, who have reported the present state of the work and future prospects to your Excellency, which is herewith inclosed, together with a copy of the report made by the Board to the Stockholders at their last meeting, referred to in the report to your Excellency.

Your Excellency will perceive by the report to the Stockholders, that the Board contemplate making further improvements in the river, so as to render it navigable for longer periods than heretofore. The measure had been agreed upon but the operations not commenced. At the meeting of the Stockholders, they considered the subject and gave a charge to the Board to push the further improvement of the navigation. In compliance with this injunction, the Board determined to employ a third set of labourers to work on the river from Harper's Ferry downwards. Then several sets of laborers have been employed from the time the river was in a proper state to work in the water. A few days before the receipt of your Excellency's letter, I took a view of what had been done and was doing by the two lower sets of labourers. From what was then done, the examination I was then capable of making of that which was to do, and the information I received from those who had the immediate charge of the labourers, I can without hesitation declare I am fully satisfied that when the work is completed as intended in the part of the river from the upper end of Seneca Falls to Tide-water, which space also comprises the Great and Little Falls, a boat may pass at any season of the year carrying from 60 to 100 barrels of Flour. This I know has very generally been considered as impracticable, but at an expense exceeding any funds the Company could possibly hope to command. From the mildness of the season and the accounts I have received since I was up the river, I have reason to believe the work in that part will be fully executed this season. My state of health did not admit of my going up to Harper's Ferry, but from the account given by the Superintendent it appears that all the necessary blasting, which is chiefly to be done under water, must be completed in that quarter this season. There will then remain the making some flushes or wing walls to throw a greater body of water into the channels now formed and forming at the low state of the river. From the head of Seneca Falls to Tide-water are twenty miles and one-half. From the same place to Harper's Ferry are thirty-five miles. Harper's Ferry is a point to which many of the farmers in Jefferson and Frederick counties bring their products, to be from there conveyed by water to market. The improvements made this year in the river will be of immense benefit to that part of the State. Below that chain of falls at Harper's Ferry, and between there and the Seneca Falls, there are three or four fish dams and one gravel shoal which require

moving, and may be effected by twenty laborers in three or four weeks. When this is done, and the rails made in that chain below Harper's Ferry, the navigation will be completed from thence into Tide-water.

1862.  
Nov. 24.  
Alexandria

I am, &c.

At a Court of Directors of the Hospital for the Maintenance and Cure of Persons of Unsound Minds, held at the Hospital in Williamsburg the 27th of November, 1862:

Nov. 24

Ordered, That it be certified to the Executive that the expenses of this Hospital from the thirtieth day of September, 1861, to the first day of October, 1862, amounts to four thousand nine hundred and eight dollars and forty-three cents.

A copy—Teste:

WILL. RUSSELL, C. C. D.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Hospital apply to the Executive for a warrant from the Auditor of Public Accounts on the Treasurer of the State for two thousand dollars.

A copy—Teste:

WILL. RUSSELL.

\$1,800 only in the fund.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, PRESIDENT U. S. TO THE GOVERNOR.

On receipt of your letter of June 11th in answer to mine of June 8th, I wrote to Mr. King our Minister at the Court of London a letter, the copy of which I now enclose you. I trusted we had then time enough to have received an answer before the ensuing meeting of the Legislature of Virginia, but he probably left England on a visit to the Continent a little before the receipt of that letter. As his absence however was not to be long, I am not entirely without hope of an answer before the rising of the Legislature, which may give us an idea of the probable result; it shall be communicated to you as soon as received.

Nov. 24.  
Washington

The convulsions prevailing in the French West India islands, place in a state of alarm all the Nations having possessions in their neighborhood into which blacks have been admitted. Under these circumstances, the dangers which might result to them from any innovation, from any change of position, are opposed to propositions which at other times would be admissible. The similar apprehensions we have experienced ourselves, will suggest the difficulties which this branch of our proposition may meet with for a time, but no favorable occasion of attempting it shall be lost.

1802.  
Nov. 24,  
Washington

I pray you to accept assurances of my affectionate esteem and consideration.

---

HENRY BEDINGER TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Nov. 29,  
Martinsburg

A few days ago was handed me your Letter of the 18th of Sep informing that I am in arrears to the contingent fund of the Soc Cincinnati of Virginia the sum of two dollars. Be assured I should have left standing such a sum, had I had any Idea of being in a The total ignorance of the affairs, funds, and disbursements. Society did indeed call for an investigation, and altho' I cannot personally attend at the time appointed for the next meeting, yet I shall heartily concur in the measures which will then be adopted. trouble you, Sir, with an application to Mr. Price for payment within inclosed order to Mr. Price (Register of the Land Office). paid will you be so obliging as to pay the same to the Treasure Wm. Heath).

I am, &c.

---

JOHN NIVISON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 1,  
Norfolk

Inclosing account for ammunition bought for the 54th regiment the threatened insurrection.

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Dec. 4,  
Kanawha  
County

Petition of Samuel Robertson, claiming to be a free man of Recites that he was illegally brought from Maryland by one Rogers, who was murdered on the Ohio river by Jack Neel; that he has been confined in Kanawha jail as a witness, and that the court has sold him to pay the costs of Neel's trial. Prays for his

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Dec. 4

Memorial of the president and directors of the Little River Turnpike Company to the Governor, reciting that at the last session, the General Assembly of Virginia passed an act incorporating the said company, power to establish a road from the intersection of Duke street, town of Alexandria, with the southwest line of the District of Columbia to the ford of Little river, where the turnpike crosses; that two hundred and seven shares had been subscribed for. The company now presents letters patent as directed by the said act.

Signed by James Keith, President; George Gilpin, Levin I Richard M. Scott, and John Thomas Ricketts.

[Rough draft of letters patent to the Little River Turnpike Company on file.—Ed.]

JAMES MONROE TO THE COUNCIL.

Your very obliging and friendly communication of this date, merits and receives my warmest acknowledgement. At the moment of retiring from the office of Chief Magistrate, which I have held for the last constitutional term of three years, I cannot be indifferent to the good opinion of those with whom I have so long acted. Sensible of what was due to the just rights of the Council of State, and to the merit of the members who composed it, it was my earnest desire, as it was my duty, to respect those claims in our official intercourse; and it is highly gratifying to me to find that my endeavors were not ineffectual. Had I erred, I should have deemed myself the more culpable as the generous example of a contrary conduct was always presented to me on its part.

1802.  
Dec. 7,  
Richmond

All my official acts have been known to the Council of State, in their commencement and conclusion. You, therefore, have it completely in your power to judge of the propriety of my conduct in every transaction. That it has your approbation, is a circumstance which will at all times give me unfeigned pleasure. Having laboured long to the utmost of my powers in support of our republican institutions, that cause can never be indifferent to me. That it may prosper, and that you may long live to enjoy the fruit of your upright, uniform and able support of it, is the earnest wish of your sincere friend and fellow-citizen.

WILLIAM JOHN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that there are about thirty public musquets in Monongalia county, most of them in bad condition and no care taken of them.

Dec. 8,  
Richmond

ROBT. SHERRARD, JAMES McMECHAN AND THOMAS CORSE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Complaining of oppressive conduct on the part of John Hunter, Wm. Alexander and Nicholas Orrick, Magistrates.

Dec. 8,  
Berkeley  
Springs

JOHN MERCER TO THE COUNCIL.

Requesting to be informed when it will be convenient for the Council to enter upon the business to which inclosed orders of the General Assembly relate.

Dec. 15

Orders of the House of Delegates and Senate, that a joint committee consisting of Messrs. Mercer, Newsum, Booker, Eley, Hawes, Walker,

Dec. 17

1802.  
Dec. 17 Warren and Larkin Smith from the first; and Faulcon, Hoomes, Bayly, Preston, Hungerford and Newton from the latter, be appointed for the purpose of enquiring into the expenditure of the Executive Department during the preceding year.

Petition of Francis Anson a convict in the Penitentiary for a pardon, in return for which he will reveal valuable secrets as to the discovery of metals by rods, &c., and also his knowledge of smelting.

#### L. BOLLING TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 19, Willowhill, Stating that as agent for the State he had rented part of the public  
Buckingham lands in Buckingham to Mr. Mintor. The part of the Old Furnace  
County tract lying north of the old river road, could not be rented to any one.

#### WM. DAVIES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 22, Has found among the old papers in his office a number of duty bonds  
Collector's taken by John King and Josiah Parker. The bonds belong to the State  
Office, of Virginia, and he has reason to believe have not been wholly paid.  
Norfolk

Dec. 24 Received of the Executive a sabre and belt procured by the Govern-  
ment, in conformity with a resolution of the General Assembly, for the  
representative of Gen. William Campbell, which I promise to deliver to  
him.

JAMES P. PRESTON.

Dec. 24 John Page qualifies as Governor of Virginia.

Dec. 24 George Hay qualifies as member of the Council.

#### E. LANHAM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing of the capture of George Fridley, from Staunton, who was  
(in consequence of a proclamation of Gov. Monroe) apprehended in Ohio  
and held for requisition.

1803.

Jan. 3,

the



I do hereby certify that Francis T. Brooke, Esq., appeared in the Frederickburg District Court as one of the counsel for the Commonwealth upon a *monstrans de droit* filed in the said Court by William Stanton against the Commonwealth to an Inquisition of Escheat.

1803.  
Jan. 3,  
Chillicothe

Certified this 3rd day of January, 1803.

JOHN CHEW, C. F. D. C.

In this case judgment was for the Commonwealth. I was employed by the Escheator of Culpeper.

F. BROOKE.

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D. SHEFFEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of the report of the committee of the House of Delegates on the subject of the Finances of the Commonwealth, comprehending all that part having relation to the conduct of the Executive in certain expenditures directed by them, and inviting explanation by the Executive before the committee the next day.

Jan. 13

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MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having been informed that the Inspectors of the Penitentiary house lately made a communication to you respecting that Institution, in which I am sorry to understand that my conduct as keeper thereof is censured, I now solicit that I may be furnished with a copy of their report. Having been appointed by the Executive to that office, and having conscientiously discharged the duties attached to it, and, as I hope, to your satisfaction, it is with reluctance I address you on this occasion, yet I conceive it a duty which I owe to myself and to those who placed me here in my present capacity, to make this request in order that I may be enabled to give the explanation which the case may require.

Jan. 13,  
Penitentiary

I am, &c.

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The official Bond of Wm. Moseley as Treasurer of the Commonwealth for one year from date of appointment in the penalty of One Million Dollars is filed.

Jan. 13

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WILLIAM DABNEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing of two vacancies in the Board of Inspectors of Penitentiary by resignation of Major Scott and Mr. Hays.

Jan. 13

## THOMAS M. BAYLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

1866  
Jan. 12

*Soliciting 64 stand of arms for the Light Infantry of the Second Battalion of the Second Regiment. An order that upon a return made under the signature of the Commandant of the Regiment, if the company is complete, that a sufficient number of arms for non-commissioned officers and privates be issued for this company.*

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 15

Asking that the sum of one hundred dollars or more, in the hands of Gen'l Shes, in Philadelphia, be directed to be applied to the purchase in that city of files, &c., needed for the manufactory of arms in Richmond.

## WILLIAM DUVAL, CHAIRMAN B. J. P. H., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 19,  
Richmond

I had the honor to receive your favor of the 15th Inst., inclosing a copy of a Letter from the Keeper of the Penitentiary to the Executive. I have communicated the contents to the Board of Inspectors, who have paid proper attention thereto. The Report of the Board, with the accompanying documents respecting the Keeper's conduct, the committee appointed by the Board of Inspectors will have the honor to lay before the Executive; also their Records and Order Book, which will satisfy, they trust, the Honorable the Executive, that their Report of the 5th Instant was founded on a sincere desire to co-operate with the Executive Council of this State in suggesting salutary amendments to the penitentiary Law and to promote the public Good without respect to the private Interest of any individual. As to that benevolent and humane system, the Executive and the Board of Inspectors have the same mind—the same patriotic zeal.

I am, &amp;c.

RICHARD ADAMS, COLONEL COMMANDANT OF NINETEENTH REGIMENT,  
TO THE GOVERNOR.Jan. 20,  
Richmond

Asking an order to Joshua West, Q. Master of 19th Regiment, for five hundred cartridges for Distinct Corps of Militia from said Regiment.

## JAMES GREENHOW, PHYSICIAN TO PUBLIC GUARD, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 20,  
Richmond

Asking that the Guard be supplied with sixteen watch coats, to be used in common by the men while on duty.

Daniel Hylton's certificate that the oaths prescribed for the Treasurer have been taken by William Moseley.

1803.  
Jan. 20

RICHARD ADAMS, COLONEL COMMANDANT, TO A. QUARRIER.

Please deliver to Mr. Joshua West, Quartermaster, three hundred cartridges and one hundred and fifty flints for the use of the 19th Regiment.

JOHN PRUNTY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Returning thanks of Jenny Boylin (alias Baylor) and her aged parents for her pardon. Jan. 23

Asking also that the final determination of the Board in the case of negro man slave the property of George Jackson, sentenced to death by the County Court of Harrison county, and supposed to have been pardoned, should be made known.

We whose names are subjoined, being officers of the army of the United States during the Revolutionary War, do certify that officers of the rifle companies in that army drew rifles of the public. Jan. 26, Richmond

LITTLE'Y MOSBY, JR.  
WM. MOSELEY.

The report of Martin Mims, Keeper of the Penitentiary, defending himself against charges preferred against him by the Board of Inspectors, inclosing numerous certificates of Richmond merchants that for goods sold M. Mims for use of Penitentiary, the payments had been satisfactory. Jan. 26

D. SHEFFEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

I enclose the extract requested by yours of last evening, containing a detail of the appropriations and expenditures of last year. January

I hope the Executive will be prepared to give the explanations promised on Monday. On that day, at half-past nine o'clock in the morning, the committee will meet for the purpose of reconsidering the report.

I should not press this subject in the manner it has been, were it not that its consideration in the house is of moment.

I am, &c.

## MEMORIAL OF STATE PAPERS

### FROM JOHN SMITH TO THE GOVERNOR.

1791  
A. D. 1791  
In Reply to a Memorial of John Smith, Esq. in relation to the Collection of Taxes on the Town of Portsmouth.

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1791  
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In Reply to a Memorial of John Smith, Esq. in relation to the Collection of Taxes on the Town of Portsmouth.

No. 1. Jefferson Ward. - Commences at the lower end of the City of Richmond upon the margin of James River and where Rocketts creek empties into the said River, extending thence up the meanders of the said river till it reaches the cross street next above Shockoe creek; following that street it includes the Bell Tavern, running to the back of the City in a straight line; following that line to the lowest boundary of the City and from thence to the beginning.

No. 2. Mullion. - Commences at the upper line of Jefferson Ward on the margin of James River, following the meanders of the River till it strikes the street next above Hay Market Gardens; thence following that

street by the Loan Office to the back line of the Town; thence along the back line till it reaches Jefferson Ward.

1803.  
February

No. 3. Monroe.—Includes the whole of the City of Richmond above Madison Ward as now established by Law.

In making the foregoing arrangement, the Executive will perceive that the Committee were entirely influenced by a regard to population and a wish to make each Ward compact and agreeable to its inhabitants.

Given under our hands this 23rd day of February, 1803.

WM. DUVAL,  
ROBT. MITCHELL,  
MERI'R JONES,  
J. H. FOUSHEE,  
LEWIS HARVIE.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, PRESIDENT U. S., TO THE GOVERNOR.

In compliance with a request of the House of Representatives of the United States as well as with a sense of what is necessary, I take the liberty of urging on you the importance and indispensable necessity of vigorous exertions on the part of the State Government to carry into effect the militia system adopted by the National Legislature, agreeably to the powers reserved to the States respectively by the Constitution of the United States, and in a manner the best calculated to ensure such a degree of military discipline and knowledge of tactics, as will under the auspices of a benign providence, render the militia a sure and permanent bulwark of national defence.

February,  
Washington  
City

None but an armed nation can dispense with a standing army; to keep ours armed and disciplined is therefore at all times important, but especially so at a moment when rights the most essential to our welfare, have been violated, and an infraction of treaty committed without colour or pretext, and although we are willing to believe that this has been the act of a subordinate agent only, yet it is wise to prepare for the possibility that it may have been the leading measure of a system.

While, therefore, we are endeavoring, and with a considerable degree of confidence, to obtain by friendly negotiation, a peaceable redress of the injury, and effectual provision against its repetition, let us array the strength of the nation, and be ready to do with promptitude and effect, whatever a regard to justice and our future security may require.

In order that I may have a full and correct view of the resources of our country in all its different parts, I must desire you, with as little delay as possible, to have me furnished with a return of the militia, and of the arms and accoutrements of your state, and of the several counties or other geographical divisions of it.

Accept assurances of my high consideration and respect.

1803.  
February

The Governor reported to the Board that in the recess of the Council, on a representation of the Auditor, of the necessity of an immediate appointment of agents to purchase for the benefit of the Commonwealth, lands taken under execution on public account and not sold for want of bidders, he had appointed John Hadden in the county of Randolph; Elliot Rucker, of Madison; Hiram Opie, of Northumberland; George Shillern, of Botetourt; John Woodward, of Monroe, agents, respectively for the purpose above recited.

That he had directed Major Coleman, on ascertaining the balance of public monies in the hands of Messrs. Pickett, Pollard, and Johnston, advanced for the purchase of arms in Philadelphia, to obtain from them a draft on the bank of the United States, in favor of Gen'l Shee, for said balance, being 1,012 54 cents, for the purpose of paying for the fire Engine and Buckets directed to be purchased for the Armory, &c., and that he had, on the 16th instant, issued an order directing a warrant to be issued in favor of Major Coleman for \$1,000 dollars, to be remitted to Gen'l Shee for procuring Iron and other articles for the Armory.

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March 3 I do hereby certify that I have administered to Mr. John Moody, who hath been appointed by the Executive, Surveyor of the Falls of James River by virtue of an act entitled "an act for the more effectually preventing obstructions to the passage of Fish in James River and its navigable Branches," the oath prescribed by the said act of Assembly, and required to be taken by the person appointed as Surveyor aforesaid.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of March, 1803.

AL. McRAE.

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PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 5 Expressing the opinion (asked for by the Governor) that the Act of Assembly, passed January 9th, 1802, concerning the salary of the Public Printer is confined in its operation to that session and not a permanent Law.

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JOS. NEVILL TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 14,  
Hardy Co.

Your letter of instructions I received yesterday together with another enclosing my commission. I immediately made application to the commanding officer of the militia of this County for a Return of his Regiment, who informed me it was out of his power to comply with the request.

Expecting the commanding officers of the other Counties within my District in the same condition, I shall, immediately after qualifying to my commission, order Battalion Musters within the different counties of my District, with particular instructions to make me returns, which shall be forwarded to the Executive as soon as possible.

1803.  
March 14,  
Hardy Co.

I am, &c.

J. STOKLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Enclosing the official Bond of Hugh Phelps and Robert Kincheloe and their securities, commissioners under Act of Gen'l Assembly, passed Jan'y 23, 1801, for completing a Road from State Road to the mouth of Little Kanawha; urging the Executive to take measures to compel these commissioners to discharge the duties undertaken by them.

March 16,  
Wood Co.

MERIWEATHER JONES, PUBLIC PRINTER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Inquiring how his salary is to be paid.

March 19

The Committee appointed to examine and report a statement of the cash balance with the Keeper up to the 5th of January last, handed in the following report, which was received by the Board, to wit:

To the Board of Inspectors:

Agreeable to appointment and in pursuance of your directions of the 7th instant, we have requested the clerk to make out a statement of the cash balance of the Keeper's account up to the 5th of January last, by which it appears that the balance due from him at that date to the institution, as per annexed statement, was \$1,954 69 cents, and that the manufactured articles trusted out and not collected (and for which he is responsible) amount to \$2,171 85 cents, as per list of balances accompanying this. The Board will observe that the outstanding debts consist of 122 accounts of from 25 cents to \$117 27 cents. The collection of such a number of small debts dispersed about into such a variety of hands must necessarily interfere with much of the time of the Keeper and tend to draw his attention from the regular duties of his office, which the Committee consider as an evil of some magnitude and beg leave to turn the attention of the Board towards, in order that a remedy may be applied.

Signed,

CHARLES JOHNSTON,  
THOMAS LADD.

Richmond, 19th March, 1803.

1803. Resolved, That the foregoing report of the Committee, received on the 19th instant, be transmitted to the Executive by the Chairman, with the following remarks of the Board, to wit:

This Board unanimously admits by the foregoing report that the Keeper has not misapplied the actual cash that has come into his hands of the institution, but it does appear that the Keeper was indebted to the institution in the sum of \$1,954 69 cents on the 6th of January last, he being responsible for the amount of outstanding debts.

The foregoing is a true copy from the proceedings of the Board of Inspectors of the Jail and Penitentiary House on the 19th and 22d inst.

WILLIAM DABNEY, Clerk.

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ROBERT LEWIS, CAPTAIN, TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 25, Reports the strength of his Military Company to be seventy-five rank  
Caroline and file, and wanting all kind of arms and accoutrements.

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JAMES MADISON TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 26, General Muhlenburg, the collector at Philadelphia, informs me that a  
Washington Box containing a model and addressed to Governor Monroe has been left at a certain house there by a vessel which lately arrived.

He wishes to know in what manner he is to dispose of it. Presuming that the address was meant for the Governor of Virginia, I take the liberty of giving you this information with a view that you may give the proper orders in the case.

I am, &c.

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SAMUEL PLEASANTS, JR., AND H. PAGE TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 26, Presenting account for printing certain number of copies of the  
Richmond Revised Code of the Laws of the Commonwealth for the use of the Public officers, with the certificates of two of the gentlemen appointed by the General Assembly to examine the work.

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RICHARD ADAMS, COL. NINETEENTH REGIMENT, TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 26 In conformity to and in obedience of the orders given by the late Gov.  
Monroe concerning a district corps, I have complied strictly, and have made the necessary arrangements for the whole of the present year.



Be assured, Sir, I shall attend to this and all other orders from you with promptitude and dispatch.

1803.  
April 3

Permit me, Sir, to submit to your consideration, the subject in a more full light than perhaps it has heretofore been seen by the Executive. The sentiments expressed to me and some of the officers of the 19th Regiment by Gov'r Monroe, induced them to believe that this city would certainly on any alarm of Invasion or insurrection, be garrisoned, it being the place of deposit for the public arms and ammunition, and considering this duty now ordered to amount to the same, have in some respects neglected the draughts, which is very uncertain and troublesome in a great degree owing to the instability and many removals of our citizens.

It is also necessary that I should observe to you that the arms furnished any troops on immediate service, will occasionally want repairs; the quartermaster of the 19th Regiment reports it is the case with the 19th Reg't, but I have never been able to obtain leave to send them to any place where they may be repaired at the public expense. Your communication on the foregoing subjects will be acceptable to me when your convenience will permit.

I am, &c.

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THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

The enclosed I have forwarded to your Excellency that in case the vessel mentioned should arrive here, you may direct in what manner we must proceed with her. I am of opinion the people should be put into the Hospital and stay a few days if they should arrive in health.

April 3,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

AMERICAN CONSULATE OFFICE,  
LONDON, Jan'y 29, 1803.

*To the Collector of the Port of Norfolk:*

SIR,—The ship *Mary*, Thomas Temple, master, freighted by me for the purpose of carrying to the U. S. a number of our unfortunate countrymen lately discharged from the British Navy, was obliged some time since to put into Falmouth by stress of weather, where a fever having broken out, she has hitherto been kept in quarantine. Several of the passengers have died, but the disorder has at length disappeared, and the vessel having consequently been released from quarantine, will in the course of a few days proceed on her voyage. Least any possibility, however, this distemper should again break out in the course of her passage, I think it proper to give you this information in order that you may take such precautions as to you shall seem proper to guard against the introduction of the disorder.

I am, &c.,

GEO. W. EWING.

## THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1803.  
April 6,  
Norfolk

I now enclose report of the Physician respecting the Ship Mary, Capt. Temple, with the seamen, Mr. Ewing wrote of. A copy of his letter I enclosed last post. This Ship sailed from Gravesend early in Nov'r, put into Falmouth in distress where she was quarantined until all was well. Then obtained a bill of health, and sailed the 4th of March with the passengers and crew in health, and have arrived here so, as the Doctor's certificate will shew.

I laid the case agreeable to law before the Mayor and Alderman, who judged there was no necessity for detaining the Ship; they will accordingly be discharged and ordered to their respective homes. They are chiefly negroes and mulattoes, who have been on board British vessels during the war, and very unfit persons to be sent here. As the British Government impressed them, so they ought to keep them and not run the U. S. to the expence of removing nuisances they were the cause of.

They will be examined by the Mayor and ordered away as soon as possible. There is not the least danger of any infectious disease on board the Ship.

They were taken on board in an emaciated state, and have been getting better ever since they sailed.

I am, &c.

PORT OF NORFOLK, 5th April, 1803.

In obedience to the order of the Superintendent of Quarantine and of the Mayor of Norfolk, I have this day visited the ship Mary, Captain Temple, from Falmouth, England. I find out of 82 men taken on board as passengers (being American seamen late on board his Britannic Majesty's ships) sixty-one are at this time on board the Mary, a considerable proportion of whom are people of colour. They are as healthy looking men as I ever saw collected together in one body. There is not, on the strictest examination, a single sickly-looking man on board.

The captain, officers and crew of the Mary, consisting of eighteen men, are as well-looking as any crew I have ever seen. The ship has been thirty-two days on her passage. Seventeen out of the 82 died from the time of taking on board at Gravesend, one detained by the Consul at Falmouth, and three run away. The last man died 22nd of February, from accident; three others chiefly of fever of the inflammatory kind. The Captain himself was ill of same complaint, but has a well-looking, healthy appearance at this time. The ship, considering she has eighty-one people on board, is remarkably free from disagreeable smells of any kind. On the whole I do not apprehend any contagious disorder has or

could have prevailed on board at any time from the sailing from England, and that she may be safely entered.

1803.  
April 6,  
Norfolk

There are also on board the wife of a passenger and her child.

J. K. READ, Port Physician.

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THOS. M. BAYLY TO GENERAL WOOD.

I enclose you a complete enrolment of the Light Infantry of Accomac, which, by resolution of the Board last winter, you directed should be completely armed when it shall appear the company is complete. Please have the swords of the non-commissioned officers sent with the guns, which I wish immediately to be sent to Norfolk, and from there they can be very soon sent to Accomac under very little expense.

April 8,  
Williams-  
burg

I am, &c.

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CRADOCH WISDOM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Resigning the office of First Inspector of Tobacco at Deane's Warehouse.

April 12,  
Ca-i-ra

Recommendation signed by sundry citizens of Robert Smith as third assistant Inspector at Deane's Warehouse.

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STEVENS THOMPSON MASON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I enclose you a return of the strength of my Brigade for the last year, as perfect as the circumstances will at present admit. I have directed the Brigade Inspector to make out and report to you the returns required by your circular letter. Intending in a day or two to leave the State in pursuit of health, and expecting to be absent for some months, I must request that any communications from the Executive on the subject of the Militia of this Brigade may be directed to Col. Albert Russell, the next officer in command.

April 18

I enclose the receipt of Mr. Smith (at present a member of the Senate of the United States) for the note of Ira Allen, given to your predecessor, and which he informs me he has put in a train of recovery.

I am, &c.

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MARTIN MIMS, KEEPER OF THE PENITENTIARY, TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the misfortune (which under existing circumstances is the more severely felt) to announce to your Excellency the escape of three of the

April 20,  
Penitentiary

1803  
April 20,  
Penitentiary

convicts from the Penitentiary on the night of Saturday, the 16th inst. The manner in which it was effected was as follows:

Joseph Caldwell, confined in one of the rooms by himself, had contrived by means unknown, to destroy that power of the lock which prevents the bolt from being forced back without the key, while the lock appears to remain perfect; with an old knife he forced the bolt back.

The other two, viz: Peter Keegan and Robert Pierson, both ironed as a punishment for former detected attempts to escape, being confined in the same room, had contrived to secrete a nailer's hammer, a gimlet and a pair of shoemaker's nippers, some nails, &c., with which they contrived to get off their irons, force off the exterior iron plate of the lock, bore the wood, so as to get to the interior and spring back the bolt.

The three having thus got into the interior yard, they got oakum, of which they made ropes, and with some shoe thread they bound together some of the planks which had been in the bottom of their bunks and made of them a kind of ladder, by which they got upon the roof of the house, from whence by means of their sheets (which they had split knotted together, and fastened to one of the chimneys), they let themselves down on the outside of the house.

This event will probably add weight to the imputations of carelessness on the part of the Keeper.

I am not, however, conscious of having omitted any exertion in my power to prevent it. I have for some time past been impressed with the necessity of additional assistance, but from motives of public economy, I have heretofore declined asking it. I can no longer in justice to myself decline it, and I must therefore request the approbation of the Executive to the appointment of three or four assistants in addition to those already employed, as I am convinced that the injunctions of the 33rd section of the act for amending the penal laws of the Commonwealth cannot be carried into effect with a smaller number. The portion of the Public Guard heretofore stationed at the Penitentiary, has been only sufficient to keep one sentinel on duty, who is placed at the gate on the outside of the building. If two sentinals could be kept out to patrol the exterior of the house, which could be depended on, it would certainly increase the difficulty of escape, but as the Guard employed at the Penitentiary is daily changed, and as I have no personal acquaintance with them, it cannot be expected that I can place that confidence in them which I ought to have in those to whom the care of the convicts is entrusted.

I am, &c.

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JOHN PRUNTY TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 21

Reporting the sale of a negro man Dick, the property of George Jackson, condemned by the County Court of Harrison to be hung, but

pardoned by the Executive on condition of transportation out of the U. States, for the sum of one hundred and thirty-four dollars and thirty-four cents.

1808.  
April 21

JOHN CONNELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Acknowledging the receipt of the quota of arms allotted to the 103d Reg't, to wit: seventy-one stand. Suggesting that these arms be put into the hands of the Light Infantry companies to complete their equipment, and asking an order for that disposition of them.

April 23

WM. WIRT TO THE GOVERNOR.

When I accepted the office of judge of the Superior Court of Chancery holden at this place, the salary attached to it was equal to my support.

A change in my situation has increased my domestic wants, and having no auxiliary resources, I now find the salary insufficient to maintain and provide for my family.

I have thought it the interest of the Suitors in this Court, that I should retain the office to the end of the present term. It closes on Thursday evening, at which time I wish it understood by your Excellency and the Council of State, that I can be no longer the judge of the Superior Chancery Court for the District of Williamsburg. You will therefore be pleased to consider this as my resignation to take effect at that time.

April 23,  
Williams-  
burg

I resign the service of Virginia with regret. She took me by the hand a stranger: adopted, cherished, trusted and honored me. The gratitude which it is natural to feel for favors like these, would have retained me in her service through life, but for the irresistible voice of domestic duties. The liberal spirit of Virginia requires not an unnecessary sacrifice. On her part, she will experience no inconvenience by my resignation, since she has very many sons now unemployed by her, who can fill this office much more to the honor and advantage of this District than I could.

I am, &c.

Be it known to all to whom these presents shall come, that I, Josiah Wilson, Sheriff of the County of Surry, in my full county, held at the court-house thereof on the 26th Day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and three, by electors of my said county qualified according to Law, caused to be chosen two Delegates for my said county—Namely, Nicholas Sebrell, Esq'r, and William Allen, Esq'r, to represent the same in the General Assembly.

Given under my hand and seal the day and year aforesaid.

1803.  
April 26

Be it known to all to whom these presents shall come, that we, Josiah Wilson, Sh'ff of the County of Surry; Nathan'l Marks, Dept. for Wm. Cole, Sh'ff of the County of Prince George; and John Blunt, Dept. of Wm. Blunt, She'ff of the county of Isle of Wight, in our full counties, held at the court-houses thereof on our respective court days in the month of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Three, By the Electors of our said respective counties, Qualified according to Law, caused to be chosen a Senator for the District composed of the said counties—Namely, John Goodrich, Esq'r, to represent the same in General Assembly.

Given under our hands and seals the day and year aforesaid.

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JOHN SMITH TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 26,  
Frederick

Inclosed you have a return of the 16th Brigade of Virginia Militia in the best manner which I have been able to obtain it. The situation of the 51st Reg't (being without a commissioned Field Officer) has rendered the return from that Reg't incomplete. The last general return will, however, report a pretty just estimate of its present strength, and the return of the Troop of Cavalry now omitted, shall be sent on in a few days. You will find an extra Troop of Cavalry returned as attached to the 31st Reg't, commanded by Capt. Bushrod Taylor. I have been requested by the commander to apply for arms, and that he would be answerable for their safety and forthcoming. Should such indulgence be granted in the State, perhaps it would be well to have a troop equipped in this part of the Country, as in case of sudden emergency the local situation would permit the men to march without hesitation. The Light Infantry in some of the Regiments have requested me to mention their situation. In the general distribution of public arms, they are deprived of a portion, and are desirous of obtaining them upon any terms the Executive may propose. The recommendations for officers in the 51st Reg't have been made and transmitted to the Executive. Your Excellency will confer a favor on those Gentlemen to order them to be sent on

I am, &c.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 27,  
Va. Man'f'y  
Arms

Informing him of a fire which occurred at the Armory, and urging the necessity of providing a Fire Engine and supply of buckets for the use of that building to ensure its safety.

Recommending also that the Artificers there employed should be provided with arms, to aid the militia of Richmond in the suppression of

any insurrection, and the protection of public property on such an occasion.

1803.  
April 27,  
Va. Man'f'y  
Arms

Petition of sundry prisoners at the Penitentiary, to the Executive, praying to be supplied with chewing Tobacco, dated April 30, 1803.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Advising written contracts to be entered into with the Artificers at the Armory, and suggesting a form for same.

April 29

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Stating objections to stamping the arms made at Wheeler's manufactory, or any other, in a way to have them mistaken for those made at the Richmond manufactory.

May 4,  
Man'f'y  
Arms

HUGH MERCER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting a supply of arms for his company of Cavalry.

May 10,  
Fredericks-  
burg

ROBERT PAGE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Submitting his claim as Attorney to the Executive for his attention to the Injunction case of Martin's Ex'ors and Devisees against the Commonwealth, dismissed at the November Term of the Chancery court for the Staunton District.

May 11

Enclosing a letter of Governor Monroe, desiring him to appear for the Commonwealth at the above-named term of the Court, which he did.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having been informed by Major Sam'l Coleman, that it was desired by the Executive I should report to them the state of such contracts as have been entered into for the erection of the Manufactory of Arms and of the Penitentiary not yet completed, I have to state to you as follows:

May 13

[Col. Clarke's report condensed as follows.—Ed.]

*Manufactory of Arms.*—Reuben George, Byrd George, Smith Blakey and Jesse Payne contracted to furnish all lumber for Manufactory of

1803.  
May 13

Arms and for the Machinery thereof. They have complied save for the lumber required for the Foundry, that having been suspended by act of Legislature.

On the 28th of August, 1798, John Harvie and Benj'n Haley contracted to furnish one million one hundred and twenty-five thousand bricks for the Manf'y of Arms, at forty shillings p'r M. and lime at eighteen pence p'r bushel. On the 10th of October, 1800, the same parties contracted to furnish as many more bricks and lime as would be necessary to complete the work (made necessary by the bad work of Wise and Carney,) the former at 38s. p'r M., the latter at 17d. p'r bushel. The contractors to receive partial payment when a kiln of bricks or lime was burnt by estimated value, to be finally adjusted by actual count when laid in the wall. These materials to be furnished as required. Bricks which have been paid for and not yet used, are on hand ready for future use.

Moses Bates contracted to remove the earth from the foundations of the Man'fact'y of Arms, while the character of the earth was similar to that dug at the Penitentiary; but for rock and all more difficult work he would be entitled to extra compensation. Finding the work more difficult, he demanded such further price as the Executive thought reasonable, and he was allowed to cancel his contract, whereupon Dr. Wm. Foushee undertook the work on cheaper terms.

The settlement with Ninian Wise and James Carney for masonry done by them on the Manufact'y of Arms, has been set forth in a previous report; balance due Wise paid to him and suit brought against Carney for balance due by him.

Benj'n Haley and Wm. Giles contracted to lay the bricks in the Manufactory of Arms, which they have thus far fulfilled until stopped by the suspension of the Foundry.

Wm. McKim, Alexander McKim, Robert Hydie and Daniel Holloway contracted to do the carpenters work in the Manufactory of Arms, which they have executed until stopped by the suspension of the Foundry.

The work on the machinery has been pressed forward as fast as seasoned timber could be procured, and erected when the building was prepared for it, and is almost completed; what remains is for the boring mill suspended for the present year.

George Williamson is executing the iron work as it is required.

*Penitentiary.*—John Harvie and George Winston contracted on the 29th March, 1797, to furnish six hundred thousand Bricks and six thousand Bushels of lime, the former at 42s. per M. and the latter at 18d. per bushel, and on the 17th July, 1798, one million five hundred thousand bricks, common sort, and one hundred and fifty thousand made in single mould, the whole at 38s. per M. with lime sufficient, at 17d. per bushel, to be paid for as previously stated. On the 10th of September,



1800, Col. Harvie contracted to furnish all the bricks and lime needed at the same prices and terms, which he has done. For further information and details, see my report of the 18th October, 1801. The number of bricks on hand are believed to be sufficient to complete the Penitentiary.

1803.  
May 13

Martin Mims contracted to execute the brick work of the Penitentiary, which he has nearly done.

Reuben George contracted to furnish the lumber for the Penitentiary, which he has done when required, and been paid for as delivered.

Rob't Fox and Anderson Barrett contracted to do the carpenters' work of the Penitentiary; the partnership was early dissolved, and the work has been nearly completed by Mr. Barret, who has been paid as the work progressed.

George Williamson and William Geddy contracted on the 11th of May, 1799, to execute the Smith's work for the building, which is now nearly accomplished.

Charles Cox contracted to execute the painting. He has performed the greater part and will soon complete it. When the several contracts are complete, a state of final settlement between the Commonwealth and each Contractor will be exhibited to the Executive.

I am, &c.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

The artificers employed at the Manufactory of Arms are much dissatisfied at not receiving payment for their work. They being strangers here, are unable to procure necessities of life on credit, and they cannot dispose of their claims without an enormous discount, and I have reasons to believe that some persons here have made arrangements to speculate on the workmen, calculating upon the uncertainty of payment from the treasury. Upward of two months' pay is now due them, and if they do not receive some part thereof, I fear some of them will leave the works. If possible, I hope the Executive will devise some plan for their receiving a month's pay. By a late order of Council, I was directed to have an hundred Rifles made, the calibre to suit balls of a size to run fifty-five to the pound. Upon trial, I found they would be very small, and sent in for your inspection 55 balls weighing one pound. I have also sent a cherry for a mould to run forty balls to the pound, which is the size to suit the Rifle in the Council chamber, and is, I think, a very good size.

May 14

At the last board of Council, I was asked on what terms I supposed the arms now to be distributed to the militia could be marked with the words "Wheeler's Manufactory," and the marks of the name of the county and number of the Reg't to which they are to be sent. I find on

1803.  
May 14

enquiry that the marking may be done for 4½d. per musket, but I much fear that if the words "*Wheeler's Manufactory*" should be marked on those arms, yet the people in the country would probably imagine they were made in the Virginia Manufactory by a man of the name of Wheeler. If Wheeler's arms are distributed, would it not be well to have a few of our make sent with them, which would be the best proof that Wheeler's arms were not made in our manufactory?

I beg leave again to call your attention to my letter respecting the artificers of the Armory being furnished with arms and ammunition.

The Bridge at the Manufactory of Arms which was a great convenience to the works, is now so much decayed as to be impassable. Mr. Rutherford, who owns property near the works, has desired me to inform you that as it would be a mutual convenience, he will be at one-half the expense of erecting a new one. The price at which a new Bridge may be built will be about \$100 or \$120.

I am, &c.

May 23,  
Martinsburg

DAVID HUNTER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for the 67th Reg't.

May 25,  
York

WM. NELSON, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have had the honor of receiving your favor of the 23rd, covering a commission appointing me Chancellor of the District of Williamsburg.

The weight of the office is such, that I fear I should find myself unequal to the support of it, and a change in my present situation would so materially affect the future part of my life, that I must take the liberty of deliberating a few days on the subject. I shall have the pleasure shortly of addressing you again.

I am, &c.

ALEXANDER QUARRIER TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 28

As the Executive Council of Virginia has intrusted me with the care of the Arsenal and all the Military stores in the City of Richmond. I think it my duty to inform you of the state they are in. First, the old arms that lie in arsenal are all unfit for service, and if the Council should think proper to have them repaired and put in the hands of the militia, if not, they should be put in air tight boxes and put away as there is no place vacant now in the Arsenal to rack them in. The second is the sit-

uation of the heavy Artillery that lies now on the Capitol Square. The third is concerning a quantity of Military stores that lies in the old jail. The fourth is five boxes of parts of locks and musket mountings, and as I have no place of deposit, the Executive will point out what is to be done with them. I beg leave to point out to you two large rooms which is now vacant in the Capitol, which would answer for a deposit for many of those articles above mentioned if lighted.

1803.  
May 28

I am, &c.

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Henrico County, &c.:

The oaths prescribed by law to be taken by the privy Council have been duly administered unto Philip Grymes, Esq'r, this day.

Given under my hand this the Thirtieth day of May, 1803.

DAN'L L. HYLTON.

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F. AND A. TUBEUF TO THE GOVERNOR.

We have duly received the letter your Excellency did us the honor to address to us, and the enclosure (copy of an act of the Assembly of Virginia to Procrastinate the payment of money but to the Colony of our deceased father, Francis Peter de Tubeuf).

May 31,  
Norfolk

The said act made with the condition that Francis and Alexander de Tubeuf shall give security for the payment of the above debt. Permit us to observe that the loan of this money was secured to the Government by the mortgage of a part of our property in back country, which mortgage is equivalent to four times the value of the amount advanced by the Government. If this Guarantee is to stand good till integral payment, we naturally suppose that it will be deemed a sufficient security.

We are, &c.

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WM. NELSON, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

I find that my accepting the office of Judge of the High Court of Chancery for the District of Williamsburg will be attended with considerable inconvenience. I therefore take the liberty of returning the commission to the Executive. This I do with the more readiness, as I am conscious that the public will not be injured by my not accepting the office. Receive and present to the Board my acknowledgments for the honor they have conferred on me by the appointment, and assurances of my highest respect.

June 1,  
Westover

I am, &c.

Henrico County, to wit:

1803.           The oaths prescribed by Law to be taken by the Privy Council have been duly administered unto William Brokenborough, Esq., this day.

Given under my hand this third day of June, 1803.

DAN'L L. HYLTON.

JOHN MOODY, SURVEYOR OF JAMES RIVER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 4,       Reports his work in removing obstructions to the passage of fish up  
Richmond     James River. Inclosing an account for expenses of same of \$163 62½.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 4       Informing him that Anderson Barrett had engaged to furnish the requisite material and build the wooden enclosure for the Penitentiary building directed by the Executive, at fifty-nine shillings and six pence per pannel, the lowest offer made for the work.

JOHN TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 10,     Altho' I sincerely wish that the \*appointment communicated by yours  
Caroline     of the sixth instant had fallen on some other person, yet a respect for its source will not admit of hesitation as to its acceptance. My chief concern is that my acknowledgments must be made rather by an earnestness for the public good than any considerable contributions towards it.

I am, with sentiments of high consideration,

Your mo. ob't s't.

\* Senator of the United States in place of Stephen Thompson Mason.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 11     When I went to New England in quest of artificers to be employed in our Manufactory of Arms, I was directed by the late Governor (Colonel Monroe), to contract with them for the term of three years. As workmen are frequently offering themselves to me for employment since we have got our works into operation, which affords us an opportunity of reducing the prices of the work, I think it may perhaps be proper that I should be authorized to engage them for shorter periods, or *any term not exceeding three years from the time of signing the articles of agreement*, in which

case I shall have it more in my power to reduce the prices of the work by engaging the artists for as short terms as the interest of the works may require.

1803.  
June 11

I saw Mr. Anderson Barrett yesterday afternoon and mentioned to him the order of the Council for his entering into contract for building the wooden inclosure at the Penitentiary. He said that as the work would be executed in so short a time he should decline entering into contract for it, but that he would go on with it as fast as he could. I have therefore entered into no written contract with him; he supposes it may be done in a month from this time.

Please, if possible, to let the pay-roll, &c., of the Armory be passed to-day early enough for the money to be drawn to-day, as I wish to avoid any cause of complaint or dissatisfaction of the artificers.

I am, &c.

H. DEARBORN, SECRETARY OF WAR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have been honored with your Excellency's letter of the 7th instant on the subject of the claim of the State of Virginia against the United States for militia services in guarding the military stores of the United States against the negroes of Virginia in the late insurrection, in answer to which I have to inform your Excellency that in March last a statement of the claim as adjusted by the Accountant of this Department was delivered to the Hon. Wilson C. Nicholas, with the original papers, which he proposed laying before your Excellency, with a view that such measures should be adopted as might be thought most expedient relative thereto, and more especially what related to the mode of paying and receiving the sum due to Virginia or to individual citizens thereof.

June 13,  
War  
Department

Mr. Nicholas is fully possessed of all circumstances relative to the subject, and will, I presume, communicate the same, together with the papers, to your Excellency.

I am, &c.

MANN PAGE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your letter enclosing a commission for me as Chancellor of the Williamsburg District has been delivered to me by the Express. The consciousness of my inability to discharge the Duties of that office notwithstanding the exertion of every faculty I possess, afflicts me severely. The peculiar situation of the District, the advice of my Friends in Yourk, and the Respect I owe to the Executive of Virginia, have induced me to sacrifice my feelings by accepting the commission. I will, therefore,

June 14

CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS.

1842  
June 4. Address of Richmond in testimony next for the purpose of qualifying that will testify me by presenting me in the most respectful terms to your Honorable of the Executive Council and assuring them that I enter into the highest sense of the honor they have conferred upon me.

I am, &c.

Copies of the oaths required by Law to be taken by the Judges of the High Court of Chancery were taken by Mann Page appointed Judge of the above-named Court for the District of Williamsburg, and are on file.

JOHN MOODY TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 16. Petition for an increase of salary of Surveyor of the Falls of James River of \$150.

JAMES McDOWELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 24,  
Rockbridge  
County. Asking instruction as to disposition of one hundred and seventy dollars of fine money in his possession. Suggesting a plan for instructing musicians for his Regiment.

SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 24,  
Richmond. The anniversary of independence is again approaching, and is an epoch which every genuine American cannot but hail with the most perfect satisfaction. In order more effectually to demonstrate the Joy which the Company of Artillery of this city feel on this occasion, as well as to manifest their respect for the principles which that independence has enabled us to establish in the choice of our system of Government, it becomes a duty which I owe to the request of that company made to me by the Captain, to trouble your Excellency with the usual annual application for the necessary quantity of Powder to perform the fireings expressive of the same.

I have, therefore, respectfully to request of the Executive that as this application has for many years past been made with success, it may also on the present occasion be deemed reasonable.

I am, &c.

WM. MARTIN TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 26,  
Charlestown. Soliciting arms for his Company, who have nearly procured their uniform.

The following recommendations of militia officers were made at the Court of Brooke county at its session June 27, 1863, viz.

Wm. Sutherland as Major 2nd Batt. 103 Regt.  
George Swearingin, Capt.  
Wm. Freshwater, Lieut.  
Richard Fowler, Ensign  
Wm. Fowler, Captain 1st  
Boot Withrow, Captain Troop of Cavalry.  
Robert Jamison, First Lieut.  
Richard Steer, Second  
Wm. McDonnell, Cornet  
Samuel Chambers, Lieut. 1st Battalion, 103 Regt.  
Robert Patterson, Ensign.

JOHN CONNELL, C. B. C.

F. AND A. TUBBY TO THE GOVERNOR.

We were honored with your Excellency's answer to our letter of 1st inst. and would have replied sooner had we known the nature of the security requested of us. In this Dilemma, ignorant of what could be agreeable to your Excellency and Council, We take the Liberty to ask of Mr. James Campbell, of Petersburg, who is perfectly well acquainted with our situation, the Favor to ascertain what would be the Demand of the State, agreeing to ratify whatever the above Gentleman will do for us in that Business.

June 30,  
Norfolk

We are, &c.

RICHARD ADAMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeable to your request by letter of the 18th day of May, I have got a statement of the arms in the 19th Regiment. The Adjutant returns three hundred and thirty-eight including the Artillery Company, in the hands of the men, presumed to be in good order; the Quartermaster returns fifty-one unfit for service. The frequent changes in the officers of the 19th Regiment for the last year, and the many removals of the men, some carrying their muskets with them, have occasioned confusion and I fear loss. Those arms in the possession of the Quartermaster are growing worse for lying. If your Excellency will please direct how they may be repaired, I will pay immediate attention to them. Some of the companies are entirely without arms, but I would not draw for any until authorized by you, taking care to keep the two companies on duty fully armed. Wishing to have an answer from you as soon as convenient.

July 1

I am, &c.

## FRANCIS PRESTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1803.  
July 5      Soliciting arms for Captain Smith's company of Cavalry, attached to the 70th Regiment, thoroughly equipped in all other respects for immediate service.

## MORDECAI BOOTH TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 9,  
Brunswick  
County      Solicits arms for the Cavalry Company called the Brunswick Republican Troop of Blues.

Sussex County, to wit:

Nine justices being present, the Court proceeded to recommend to the Executive fit persons to be commissioned as officers to fill up vacancies in the Militia of this county, to wit:

John Holt as Lieutenant, in the room of Joseph Wrenn, who has removed.

John Myrick as Lieutenant, in the room of Joseph Williamson, who refuses to qualify.

John Judkins as Ensign, in the room of Burwell Gilliam, who refuses to qualify.

Edwin Adams as Ensign, in the room of Absalom Flowers.

The Court recommended Thomas E. Rives, the present Sheriff of this county, to the Executive to be commissioned as Sheriff, to continue in office for the term of two years from the time of his first qualification.

A copy—Teste:

J. C. BAILEY, Clerk.

## WM. JOHNS TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 25,  
Morgantown      Yours of the 22nd of January, 1803. I received the first day of June, in answer to mine of the 8th of December, 1802, respecting the public arms that lay squandered in our county. I have collected about thirty, and agreeable to your request have had them examined by a workman as to the probable expense of repairing them, and he is of opinion this cannot be done for less than six dollars to make them equal to any other new muskets, taking the whole together, as there is several new locks wanting, stocks, bands, and there is no ramrods at all. If the Executive thinks them worth repairing, I would attend in getting them done, as there is a young man now in Morgantown who is a very good workman, and has worked about two years in the factory in Pennsylvania.

I am, &c.



L. BOLLING TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending the renting out of the Plantation on the Public Lands near New Canton for a term of from three to five years.

1808.  
July 30,  
Buckingham  
County

JAMES MONROE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I hope that my friends in Virginia have given me the proof which I have so often experienced from them of indulgence for failing to write them as I wished to have done since I left Richmond. The truth is, I have been engaged in a course of laborious duty, not in the best health at times, and further restrained by the fear that my communications might be interrupted on the way. At present I have only to remind you and my other friends that I have not, and shall not, forget them, and also to transmit you a receipt from the Artist Houdon, at Paris, for the amount of his claim of a balance due him on account of the Statue of the late Gen<sup>l</sup> Washington which I paid him. You will recollect, or rather several of our estimable friends in the Council will, that it was decided that the Artist should not loose by the depreciation of the paper in which the payment was made him; that the payment of the balance claimed was only delayed to have been correctly ascertained by Mr. Jefferson.

August 12

On my arrival in Paris, this poor man applied to me for justice, and I thought it best to pay him. It did not suit the character of the State or the transaction, that a just claim should be delayed on the account of that Statue. I had the account examined and settled by Mr. Skipwith, who has, I am persuaded, done ample justice to the parties. If what I have done is approved of, I have to request that you will be pleased to pay the amount to my friend, Mr. Tyler, of the Council, who will apply it as I shall desire in a letter I shall write to him in a day or two by N. York. I beg you to present my most friendly regards to the gentlemen of the Council, as also to Major Coleman and Mr. Hylton. I should impose too great a burden on you in requesting the like attention to my other friends in Richmond and elsewhere, to many of whom, I hope to be able occasionally to write.

I am, &c.

The undersigned, Commercial agent of the United States at Paris, having by desire of James Monroe, Envoy Extraordinary, &c., to the French Republic, examined the several papers exhibited by Mr. Houdon in support of his claim against the State of Virginia for the loss by depreciation on the sum of nine thousand Livres paid him in assignats by the late Bankers of the United States, Messrs. Grande & Co., on the

1803.  
August 12

29th of November, 1792, on account of the Statue of General Washington, made by him for the State of Virginia, does hereby certify that by the scale of depreciation established by law in this country, it appears that on the aforesaid 29th of Novem'r, 1792, the sum of nine thousand Levres in assignats was worth six thousand two hundred Levres specie, and that therefore that the said Houdon did sustain a loss thereon of Two thousand eight hundred Levres.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name and affixed my seal of office to this duplicate certificate this 10th day of June, 1803, at Paris.

[Seal.]

FULWAR SKIPWITH.

[The receipt of M. Houdon in French, through Mr. James Monroe, at Paris on the 16th of June, 1803, of Two Thousand eight hundred Levres in full of balance found due him by Fulwar Skipwith for the execution of the Statue of General Washington, is on file.—Ed.]

#### BENJAMIN PARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 17

Informing him of having established Quarantine at Fredericksburg against New York city on account of a contagious fever there, and asking the sanction of the Governor thereto.

#### THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 19,  
Norfolk

From the best authority, we have accounts that the fever rages at New York to so great a degree that it has become necessary to have vessels examined that arrive from thence, but I think that there is no necessity of performing a full quarantine. An examining physician will only be wanting with discretionary powers in the Superintendent of quarantine to direct the number of days a vessel is to lie before she is admitted, and in case of real sickness they must perform a quarantine sufficiently long to eradicate the disease. A Proclamation would answer best, as the disease rages all over the Islands in the West Indies, Bahamas, &c., and as much danger is to be apprehended from Europe in vessels with a number of passengers as from any place, having been applied to by a number of respectable citizens to examine vessels which can only be partially done without a Proclamation, I have considered it proper to lay the case before you that no time may be lost in so important a matter. The officer commanding Fort Nelson has offered his boats, and the Physician of the Fort would examine and report, I expect, for \$30 a month if the Law would allow him to be employed. Your speedy answer will oblige me much, as the people are uneasy on the subject.

The Mayor being out of the Town, a meeting could not be had to instruct the Superintendent on the occasion.

1803.  
August 19,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding the following proposals for putting on a slate roof on the Public Warehouse at Richmond, viz: August 20

John Boston, of New York, offers to do it (the State to furnish materials and assistants) for three dollars per square.

John Gowans, of Petersburg, offers to do it (he to furnish the line) for four dollars per square; or the State furnishing all materials, for eighteen shillings per square.

James Goodwin, of the city of Richmond (the State finding slate and nails only), at twenty shillings per square.

The Bridge over the Canal near the Armory is rebuilt. Mr. Rutherford has paid for it. It may be proper that the sum lately advised by the Executive to be applied to that purpose should be paid to Mr. Rutherford.

I am, &c.

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Samuel Coleman forwards the Governor's Proclamation to all Superintendents of Quarantine to establish quarantine against vessels coming from New York, the West India Islands, all affected with any malignant infectious disease, not exceeding twenty days. August 23

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THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of arrival of schooner Republican, from New York bound to Richmond, drove on shore in Nansemond river. Captain and mate both sick. Vessel quarantined. Suffering of crews quarantined not allowed to go on shore. Suggesting the purchase of a sandy point on the west side of Tanner's creek as a fit place for erecting cabins for a temporary Hospital, on which the State might subsequently erect a permanent Hospital. Sept. 9, Norfolk

The schooner Charlotte, Capt. Butler, from New York, with 22 men, women and children on board, quarantined, and suffering much on account of it. Expense of a sufficient guard to enforce strict quarantine would cost more in one year than Hospital building.

1803  
Sept. 9,  
Norfolk

Report of vessels arriving at Norfolk from W. India, N. York, and Medeterenean, subject to quarantine regulations:

Schooner Polly, -	-	Capt. Lawrence,	No. people	4,	well.
Ship Dart, -	-	Peck, -	" "	10,	Do.
" Thomas, -	-	Vickery, -	" "	10,	Do.
Br. Orlando, -	-	Collet, -	" "	8,	Do.
Schoo'r Flora, -	-	Clarke, -	" "	12,	Do. Quarantine.
Sloop Dianna, -	-	Lewis, -	" "	6,	Do.
Sc. Gen. Waltusty, -	-	Jones, -	" "	15,	Do.
Sch. Wm. Henry, -	-	Boush, -	" "	8,	Do.
Sch. Betsy and Fanny,	-	Gibson, -	" "	11,	Do.
Schon. Dolphin, -	-	Steelman, -	" "	8,	Do.
Sl. Sally, -	-	Duffie, -	" "	9,	Do.
Schon'r Charlotte, -	-	Butler, -	" "	22,	Do. Quarantine.
Br. Hucas, -	-	Clarke, -	" "	7,	Do.
Br. S. W., -	-	Steed, -	" "	8,	Do.

J. K. READ, Port Physician.

8th Sep., 1803.

#### ALEX. HENDERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 13,  
Dumfries

Enclosing proceedings of a Town Meeting, with Resolutions urging the appointment of Capt. George Williams as Superintendent of Quarantine at Dumfries and New Port, on account of the Malignant Fever prevailing at Alexandria.

#### THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 19,  
Norfolk

I believe it has become necessary to stop all vessels arriving from distant ports. Philadelphia, I have heard, has broke out with the fever to an alarming degree. With your approbation it shall be done, without delaying vessels where there is no necessity. Baltimore—I have not as yet heard of any fever prevailing there, but believe it will be proper to examine from all ports. The return of last week is enclosed. We are healthy yet; very few persons are sick, and fewer attacks of the violent bilious fever than I ever knew at this season.

I have heard it was sickly at the Mountains. As you have just returned, I shall be glad to hear how my friend Mr. Jefferson is. My best wishes attend you and all friends.

Your, &c.

## THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Inclosed is a deposition given before me this day. By it you will see British officers are here to enlist men. It is said three men were carried on board the privateer, one of whom made his escape. The privateer, as I have heard, has purchased provisions and necessaries to fit out. Whether it is allowable you best know, but I think it not right to permit any power at war to recruit in a neutral country.

1803.  
Sept. 21,  
Norfolk

Inclosed is a letter from an impress man, who seems to give a particular account of the place of his nativity. There is a place called Castle Island near Ocracock, from which the Governor of North Carolina could get information whether his father and mother lived there. You will please to say what Justices are to do in such cases, as I believe there has been no instructions given to civil officers since the commencement of the war.

We continue well yet. Very few are sick, as I am informed.

If the President should not have returned to Washington, I think the deposition had better be sent to him to Monticello.

I am, &c.

The deposition of Benj. White deposeth and saith: That on the 19th of September, 1803, came to his house whilst his boarders were at supper, three men, one of whom was a Mr. Grattan, who was in the American Navy as an officer; the other two were British officers—one he was told was a Lieutenant, the other a purser. Mr. Grattan came into the room at the front door, where the men were at supper, and one officer with him, and the other officer came in through the shop in a passion, and asked if I had any men to ship; while Mr. Grattan and the other officer took Charles Jansen, a Dane (who had a pass from the Danish Vice-Consul, F. S. Taylor), out of the door and endeavored to persuade him to ship, as now was the time for him to make his fortune, which he refused to do, and they called him out a second time; when he still refused, the British officer drew a cane sword and threatened to put it through him if he would not go. The said Jansen abused Mr. Grattan for attempting to ship men to go on board a British man-of-war, but did not abuse the British officer.

Signed,

BENJ'N WHITE.

Norfolk Borough, Sept. 21st, 1803.

Ben White made oath to the above deposition before me.

THOS. NEWTON, Recorder.

1803. At a Court of Directors of the Lunatic Hospital in Williamsburg, held  
September the 27th day of September, 1803:

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Hospital apply to the Auditor of Public Accounts for a warrant on the Treasurer of the State for two thousand dollars.

A copy—Teste:

WILL. RUSSELL, C. C.

PETERSBURG DISTRICT, *September Court, 1803.*

A letter from the Mayor of Petersburg addressed to the Judges of the District Court, now sitting, was received by them, which being considered, it is ordered that the said letter be certified to the Executive, in order that the same may be laid before the next General Assembly, and is in the following words:

GENTLEMEN:

Agreeably to the propositions made by the Common Hall to the General Assembly, we take the liberty to inform you that the Court-House of the town has been improved for the use of the District Court, and that the Common Hall are ready and willing to make such other improvements as may appear to you necessary and proper. The Clerk of the District Court now keeps his office in the Court-House, to whom we beg leave to refer you for any further information on the subject.

We have also to inform you that agreeably to an act of the last session of the General Assembly, to which we beg leave to refer you, the Commissioners appointed by the Executive for that purpose have contracted for the building of a jail for the use of the town and district, which jail is to be completed by the first of July next. A doubt having existed in the minds of the Judges, Parker and Stewart, who were here at the last circuit, whether, under the present existing laws on the subject, they were authorized to adjourn the District Court to the town Court-House, we take the liberty to submit the question to your consideration, in order that if you should be of the same opinion, measures may be taken to obtain the sense of the Legislature.

On behalf of the Common Hall.

I am, &c.

ROBT. BIRCHETT.

Teste: WALTER CRUTCHFIELD, Clerk.

Oct. 1 A list of persons who have been permitted by the Richmond District Court to qualify as citizens of Virginia since the first day of October, 1802:

Names.	Occupation.	Country from whence came.	1803. Oct. 1
Patrick McMara,	Merchant,	Ireland.	
James Noble,	Merchant's clerk,	Great Britain.	
John Murphey,	Carpenter,	Ireland.	

The Treasurer being enjoined to close the accounts of his office on the thirtieth of Sept'r annually, we, the underwritten, a committee of the Executive for that purpose appointed at the request of the Treasurer, repaired to the Treasury on the morning of the first of October in order to ascertain the amount of money, Tobacco, and other facilities actually in the Treasury received on public account and constituting the Balance due therefrom on the 30th of September, 1803; and having examined and carefully counted and weighed the money, we find it to amount to one hundred and sixty-one thousand six hundred and forty-one dollars and seventy-nine cents.

We find also Tobacco notes now in the Treasury, received also on public account, for 13,863 pounds of crop, and 760 pounds of Nett Transfer tobacco, amounting, agreeably to the rates at which it was received by law, to six hundred and eighty-three dollars and ninety-three cents.

AL. McRAE,  
W. FOUSHEE,  
WM. BROKENBROUGH.

Treasury, October 3rd, 1803.

J. A. CHEVALLIE TO THE GOVERNOR.

As agent for the Representatives of the late Baron de Beaumarchais, I have obtained, in the month of May last, a Decree from the Court of Appeal against the State of Virginia for £11,372.15s.2d. Oct. 8, Richmond

The Auditor of Public Accounts has expressed his Readiness to Deliver warrant for the amount of the Decree, but money unappropriated being at the Treasury, I have Drawn only a small sum, which I have negotiated at a Discount.

I solicit of your Excellency to announce to the Legislature in your communication at the next meeting, that such a Decree exists; that a fund will be necessary for the Payment, and that interests ought to be Granted from the Day of the decree until paid.

Your knowledge of the Eminent service of Mr. Beaumarchais to this Country will make you commiserate for the suffering of his Representatives, who are unable to discharge his debt and support their families if kept much Longer out of their money.

I am, &c.

## JOHN SHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1803.  
Oct. 9,  
Philadel-  
phia

I have your favour of the 3rd instant, and annex John Miles' receipt for the check it contained; have given him also the two enclosures, and shall also furnish him with an extract of your letter, which I have shewn to him; it cannot fail of pleasing. Believe me my predeliction for your State is, if possible, increased by the considerate and liberal conduct to which I have been a witness—the immediate relief afforded by your Executive in the only part of the contract that bore hard on McCormick, their voluntarily shortening the time of payments, the punctuality with which remittances have been made, the readiness with which they have bestowed commendations on the performances of men they have employed, added to the generosity experienced by myself, fill me with esteem and gratitude.

May I hope from you, my friend, to be presented with all due respect and to add my wishes for their individual happiness as well as for the everlasting prosperity of the State. You will scarcely believe that however anxiously I have looked for my Nancy, that now the period is approaching when she is to leave my Virginia friends, that I feel somehow sorrowful; it seems to look like the severing of that chain that I hoped would ever bind us in friendship together.

I long to hear of the arrival of the Caroline, who carried the last arms, that I may felicitate myself on the safety of all our shipments and the saving to your State of a considerable sum by not insuring, as was once contemplated. To your lady, yourself and family we all send love. I wait to hear from our friend Clarke ere I acknowledge his last favor or send forward Duane's receipt and account.

I am, &c.

## WILLIAM JOHN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 11,  
Morgantown

Your letter of the 25th of July, respecting the arms in Monongalia County belonging to the public, requesting me to inform you if the arms could be sold to any advantage to the public in the state they are now. I have been at the trouble again to examine them, and I believe as they are at this time they could not be sold for one dollar a stand taking the whole together, for there is not more than one fourth fit for any use, and I think could not be fired at all, and if the State thinks they are not worth repairing they are better sold than lost at any price.

I am, &c.



JAMES LOWYES, MICAJAH DAVIS, THOS. LADD, AND THOS. ELLIOTT,  
TO THE GOVERNOR.

We the undersigned Inspectors of the Penitentiary, apprehend our future services will be of but little or no further use to the public under present existing circumstances. We do therefore beg leave to tender to the Governor and Council our resignations, trusting they will accept the same.

1803.  
Oct. 12,  
Richmond

[Note.—Accepted.]

William Whitaker in the room of Lowyes: — Chavallier in the room of Davis: Geo. Tucker in the room of Thos. Ladd: Col. John Harvie in the room of Thos. Elliott.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Agreeably to your request, I have to state that twenty-one hundred and fifty-one muskets have been finished in the Manufactory of Arms since it was put into operation, of which number one thousand and six were sent to the Capitol, one musket sent (pursuant to a resolution of the Legislature) to the Secretary of War, one hundred and thirty-eight sent to the county of Berkeley conformably to an order of the Executive, and one thousand and six now at the Manufactory of Arms.

Oct. 13

I am, &c.

SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

It having been suggested by some of the members of the Council when last assembled, that it might facilitate the business of distributing the arms if I were to report on that subject, I therefore beg leave to communicate to you for the information of Council what follows:

Oct. 14,  
Richmond

Under the law passed at the session of 1799, "Concerning the Militia of this Commonwealth," 9,214 stands of arms have been apportioned and stamped as the law directs, to be distributed among all the Regiments of Militia according to their strength respectively. 2,000 have been apportioned and stamped for certain towns, according to an act of Assembly particularly directing the same. Generally the above arms have been distributed.

Of 1,000 stands made by Wheeler, 72 stands have been issued to the said Regiment in Accomack. The remainder, to wit: 928 stands, are in the Arsenal, stamped for distribution according to the inclosed statement.

1803.  
Oct. 14,  
Richmond

The \*4,000 stands originally contracted to be furnished by McCormick in Philadelphia, are all received, apportioned and stamped according to a list also inclosed. These with the other arms on hand amount to 14,040 stands, making a total of the arms of the State \*25,326 stands, two-thirds of which ought to be distributed under the act "Concerning the Militia of this Commonwealth."

In pursuance of a letter addressed to the Brigadier Generals by the Governor for that purpose, returns have been obtained of the Troops of Cavalry, Companies of Artillery, Grenadiers, Light Infantry, and Riflemen, as follows:

*Of the First Brigade.*

5 Troops of Cavalry, total strength,	-	-	-	-	-	-	203
2 Companies of Artillery,	-	-	-	-	-	-	148
7 Do. " Light Infantry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	382
2 Do. " Riflemen,	-	-	-	-	-	-	160

*Of the Second Brigade.*

3 Troops of Cavalry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	119
2 Companies of Artillery,	-	-	-	-	-	-	78
2 Companies of Grenadiers,	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
5 Do. of Light Infantry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	224

*Of the Fifth Brigade.*

3 Troops of Cavalry, total strength,	-	-	-	-	-	-	183
8 Companies of Light Infantry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	533

*Of the Seventh Brigade.*

2 Troops of Cavalry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	132
2 Companies of Light Infantry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	145
5 Do. of Riflemen,	-	-	-	-	-	-	350

*Of the Tenth Brigade.*

3 Troops of Cavalry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	118
2 Companies of Artillery,	-	-	-	-	-	-	142
1 Do. of Grenadiers,	-	-	-	-	-	-	75
4 Do. of Light Infantry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	241
4 Do. of Riflemen,	-	-	-	-	-	-	265

*Of the Thirteenth Brigade.*

1 Troop of Cavalry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
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\*6,500 of these are old and want repairs. We have also 600 Pistols and 600 Swords for Cavalry.

*Of the Fourteenth Brigade.*

1 Troop of Cavalry, - - - - -	65	1803. Oct. 14, Richmond
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*Of the Sixteenth Brigade.*

4 Troops of Cavalry, - - - - -	240
2 Companies of Artillery, - - - - -	123
7 Do. of Light Infantry, - - - - -	523
1 Do. of Riflemen, - - - - -	76

*Of the 103rd Regiment, Brooke.*

1 Company of Light Infantry, - - - - -	55
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Applications are made by Gen'l John Smith to arm the volunteers of his Brigade generally.

By Thos. Bailey, to arm the Cavalry on the Eastern Shore.

By Col. Francis Preston, to arm the Troop of Cavalry raised in the 70th Regiment.

By Capt. Mordecai Booth, to arm his Troop of Cavalry in Brunswick.

By Capt. Richard C. Claiborne, to arm his Troop of Cavalry in Dinwiddie.

By Capt. Wm. Martin, to arm his Troop in Harrison.

By Capt. Hugh Mercer, to arm his Troop in Fredericksburg.

By Col. John Minor, to arm Capt. Robert Lewis' Company of Artillery in Caroline.

By Capt. Bathurst Jones, to arm his Company of Artillery in Hanover, &c.

I am, &c.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that the last General Assembly failed to make appropriations for finishing the work on the Manufactory of Arms, the Public Warehouse or the Penitentiary, and seeking the aid of the Executive to prevent the stoppage of these works.

JOHN SHEE TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Your favor of the 11th instant I received in course. The Draft it contained for one thousand two hundred and twenty-eight dollars and seventy cents, being the amount of my claim on your State for various services, is accepted and no doubt will be duly paid. My best acknowledgments

Oct. 23,  
Philadel-  
phia

1803.  
Oct. 24,  
Philadel-  
phia

are due to your Executive for their kind expression of satisfaction in the discharge of the agency committed to me. To Governor Page and every individual of the Council make known my dear sir, my high respect and esteem.

I am, &c.

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THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 26,  
Norfolk

Informing him that the danger from contagious disease no longer exists, and asking that vessels with healthy crews be allowed to come in. Also complaining that there are but five justices to constitute a court in Norfolk at this time.

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PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNOR.

Whereas the malignant fever which unhappily prevailed in the city of New York and other parts of the United States has subsided, and it appearing to be unnecessary further to continue the interruption of the commerce of this Commonwealth with the Islands of the West Indies and other foreign ports, I have therefore thought it fit, with the advice of the Council of State, to issue this proclamation, hereby revoking that issued on the 22nd of August last injoining the performance of quarantine.

Given under my hand as Governor, with the seal of the Commonwealth annexed, at Richmond, this 29th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1803, and of the Commonwealth the Twenty-Eighth.

[Seal.]

JOHN PAGE.

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JOHN FINGLE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 5,  
Morgantown

Enclosed you will find the transcripts of two Records, which, on inspection, you will find it was my duty to forward.

I troubled your Excellency some time since with an application for a copy of the Revised Laws and a Seal of office, but have not yet had the pleasure of receiving your answer. I find it extremely difficult to discharge the duties attached to my office without the aid of all the laws which created those duties. The seat of the Court to which I have the honor of being clerk lying so immediately contiguous to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Ohio that many applications are made for authenticated Transcripts of Records, to which the important necessity of a seal is too obvious to your Excellency to need any comments.

I am, &c.

THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I now enclose the general Report of vessels visited by Dr. Read during the term the Quarantine lasted, by which it appears he visited 179 vessels in 66 days. His attention and assiduity was very satisfactory to me. Many of the vessels he visited every day during the time they lay at the quarantine ground, which was below the forts. His attention deserves a liberal compensation, which I hope your Excellency and Council will make him, as the services were left to you to determine. He will deliver this, and can inform the situation the vessels lay in, better than I can describe.

1803.  
Nov. 10,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

JOHN HAYMOND TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Troop of Cavalry in the 11th Regiment of the militia of this State, which I have the honor to command, being destitute of arms, I earnestly request that your Excellency cause to be forwarded to this County such arms and other equipage as the said Troop shall be entitled to receive from the Commonwealth.

Nov. 21,  
Harrison

I am, &c.

JAMES MONROE, AMERICAN MINISTER, TO THE GOVERNOR.

I recollect that while I had the honor to serve the Commonwealth in the Executive, it appeared that there were many cases of contestation between the State and British subjects, growing out of our revolution and treaties with this country for tracts of land and lots lying in several of our counties and towns, some of which were of great value. Several of those controversies were of long standing and attended with great expense, while the result was quite uncertain. It has occurred to me, that it might be advantageous to the State to compromise these disputes with the parties, by the purchase of their claims for some reasonable equivalent. It is presumable that they would prefer selling them at a very moderate price, a half or less of their value to be paid by instalments, which might be satisfied out of the lands alone, to the prosecution of a doubtful controversy which keeps them so long, even in a case of favorable issue, from the possession of the property. It might also be more satisfactory to the State to adjust these controversies by amicable compromise, than by legal decision, since the former is a mode that will content every one. If the State is disposed to adopt this mode, and thinks proper to repose the trust in me, I will accept it with pleasure, and undertake to execute it in

Nov. 29,  
London,  
England

1803.  
Nov. 29,  
London,  
England

the best manner in my power. I shall wish no compensation for the service; my sole object will be to render myself useful to my country, and my highest gratification to succeed in the undertaking.

There are probably many cases of the kind not known to the Executive, or even brought into the Courts, where the property is either vacant or held on various pretexts for the benefit of the occupants or absentees. In case the subject is entered on, it may be deemed advisable to go through with it, and with that view to trace the cases in every county, which may be done by the Escheators or other suitable agents. If the power is transmitted, it will be proper to accompany it with a statement of the title to each tract, the number of acres, its probable value, &c. My public duties will probably put it out of my power to execute this trust in person in the details. Where necessary I will appoint an agent, whose charges shall be as light as I can make them, and in all cases I will supervise and be responsible for his conduct. It is possible that by this measure, a considerable sum might be raised for the Commonwealth. Besides the cases depending in the Courts, which are deserving of attention, I remember one from Norfolk, of which information was given by Mr. Lee, who represented it to be of great value. In every instance where the party had received compensation from this Government, on the principle that the property had been confiscated, I should suppose that the claim might be extinguished for a mere trifle. It may be deemed presumptuous in me to express a wish as to the application of the money which may be thus raised, in case the idea is adopted and executed with success. The wisdom of the Legislature will, I doubt not, destine it to some humane and useful object. Had I a seat in the Legislature and a vote on the application, it would be to the purpose of public instruction. It is an opinion which I have long entertained, on which every day's experience and observation tends to confirm, that however free our political institutions may be in the commencement, liberty can not long be preserved unless the society in every district, in all its members, possesses that portion of useful knowledge which is necessary to qualify them to discharge with credit and effect, those great duties of citizens on which free Government rests. The responsibility of public servants, however well provided for by the Constitution, becomes vain and useless if the people in general are not competent judges, in the course of the Administration, of all the questions which it involves. If it was wise, manly and patriotic in us to establish a free Government, it is equally incumbent on us to attend to the necessary means of its preservation. The money thus raised, might form the commencement of a system, which under favorable auspices, especially the humane patronage of the Legislature, might be matured hereafter and extended throughout the Commonwealth. You will excuse the liberty I have taken to make this suggestion, and be assured that it will give me great and sincere pleasure

to have it in my power while I remain abroad to render service to my country and my friends in this or any other mode in which they will be pleased to command me. Be so kind as to present my most friendly regards to the gentlemen at your Board, and believe me to be, dear sir, with great respect and esteem,

1803.  
Nov. 29,  
London,  
England

Affectionately yours, &c.

I certify that Tarlton W. Pleasants has written up the Journals of the House of Delegates for the years 1793 and 1798, agreeably to a resolution of the last Assembly, and that the charge in his account is lower than I have given for work of the same kind.

Given under my hand this 5th day of December, 1803.

JAMES PLEASANTS, C. H. D.

To the Honorable ths Executive.

MORDECAI BOOTH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms and accoutrements made at the State Armory for the Brunswick Republican Troop of Cavalry, of which he is Captain.

Dec. 6,  
Richmond

Abraham B. Venable, Esq., elected United States Senator.

Dec. 7

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

In obedience to an order of the Council reports as follows: That it is impossible to make the inspection of so large a number of arms as are stored in the roof of the Capitol, in the confused mass, with so insufficient light. Advises that to be repaired, they should be taken by wagon loads as needed, to the Armory. That no work be done to the arms in the Arsenal as at present, on account of the danger by theft or fire.

Dec. 13

Respecting the use of the Fire Engine bought for the Manufactory of Arms if it be the pleasure of the Board, that it shall be used for extinguishing fire on private property in the city, suggests that it would be unsafe to the public property for the engine ever to be taken further from the same than the Market Bridge; that the artificers at the Armory shall be formed into two companies, one to act as an armed guard and the

Dec. 13

1803. other a fire company to manage the Engine exclusively on occasion of  
Dec. 13 fire.

Advises a further purchase from the stores of the U. S. at Philadelphia of about 6,000 gun stocks (well seasoned) for supply of Armory.

Informs the Board that according to their advice he had stamped and boxed the following stands of arms:

For the 113th Reg't, Wood	County, -	-	-	-	30 stands.
" " 114th Do.	Hampshire	"	-	-	35 Do.
" " 30th Do.	Caroline	"	-	-	83 Do.

All to be taken from those made at the State Manufactory.

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#### L. BOLLING TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 13 Enclosing leases made with Wm. Minton and Wm. Anderson on public land near New Canton for ensuing year. Rent of both £27.10.0.

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#### THOS. AND JOHN HIGINBOTHAM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 14, Informing him that Francis and Alex'r Tubeuf had gone to Europe.  
Norfolk Had sent letter for them to James Campbell their agent, Petersburg.

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#### BERRYMAN GREEN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 16, Soliciting arms for Captain Sanford's Troop of Cavalry of Halifax  
Halifax County.

Also for a further supply for a company of the 69th Regiment omitted in the return made by Col. John Douglas, its former commandant.

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#### JAMES G. LAIDLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 18, Report of his inspection, under orders from the Board, of the condition of a road recently made between the State Road and Wood Courthouse.  
Wood Co.

Work very imperfectly performed; road very dangerous for wagons. Asking twenty-five dollars for his inspection and report. Miles of road worked on sixty-nine; whole distance to Wood Courthouse eighty-one.



Henrico County, &c.:

The oaths prescribed by Law to be taken by the Governor or Chief Magistrate, have been duly administered unto John Page, Esq'r. 1803.  
Dec. 26  
Given under my hand this 20th day of December, 1803.

DANIEL HYLTON.

The official Bond of William Price and his securities as one of the Superintendents at the public Tobacco Warehouse in the City of Richmond, bearing date December the 26th, 1803, is lodged.

Henrico County, Set.:

I do hereby certify that John Heath this day took the oath of a Privy Councillor before me, a Justice of the Peace of the County aforesaid, agreeably to Law.  
Given under my hand this 30th day of December, 1803.

JOSEPH SELDEN.

The official Bond of Thomas Underwood, Jn'r, and his securities as Superintendent of the Public Tobacco Ware House in the city of Richmond is lodged. 1804.  
Jan. 2

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Urging the procuring of several musket stocks speedily from the military stores of the U. S., for the use of the State Armory. Jan. 4

THOMAS NICHOLSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Offering to furnish the State with one thousand copies of the collection of Acts of the General Assembly contained in the Revised Code, printed by Pleasants and Price, for the sum of three dollars p'r copy. Jan. 5,  
Richmond

AUGUSTINE DAVIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Offering to furnish the State with one thousand copies of the collection of Acts of the General Assembly, printed and bound in a similar manner as the edition by Pleasants and Price, for four thousand dollars. Jan. 5,  
Richmond

## MERIWEATHER JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

1804.  
Jan. 5

Offering to furnish the State with one thousand copies of the revised Code of the same character of workmanship and materials as the Edition of Pleasants & Pace for four dollars per copy. He will furnish an elegant edition upon fine paper and with new type for five dollars per copy.

It appears by copies of pay-rolls in this office (the originals having been sent on to the General Government) that John Marcheson was allowed pay as Lieutenant of a detachment called into service by the Executive for the defence of the Military Stores in the Town of New London, belonging to the United States, from 25th May to 13th July, 1801, and rations from 13th May to 17th July, 1801, and that he was arrested on the 13th July and continued under arrest to the 28th September following. It also appears that Jesse Webb took the place of Lieut. Marcheson and received pay and rations to 25th of August, 1801.

S. SHEPARD.

Aud'tr's Office, 7th of January, 1804.

January 9, 1804.—I have this day received the Governor's order on the Auditor to issue a Warrant for fifteen hundred dollars on account to furnish Gunstocks for the use of the Armory.

JOHN CLARKE.

## JOHN BAKER TO MAJOR HUGH HOLMES.

Jan. 9,  
Shepherds-  
town

Enclosing the certificate of Cyrus Saunders, Escheator of Jefferson County, of the service of John Baker as attorney at sundry times at the house of Wm. Graham, deceased, in a controversy in which the Commonwealth was a party; for which service the said Baker claims a compensation of five dollars.

Account of Several Items omitted to be charged in my account rendered to the Executive under the Act entitled an act to provide for the opening of a road from the Upper Navigation of James River to the Upper Navigation of Kanawha River, viz:

Paid Jacob Gehart, Blacksmith, for repairing tools, &c.,	-	-	£	19.3
P'd Noah Reder. 10 days' work on State Road,	-	-	-	1.10.0

I do hereby acknowledge receipt of four hundred Dollars inclosed in a letter to me from his Excellency the Governor of the 25th of October last.

1804.

DAVID RUFFNER.

Richmond, Jan'y 10th, 1804.

THOMAS H. WOODING TO THE GOVERNOR.

I am directed by the Committee appointed by the House of Delegates, to enquire whether it is at this time expedient to employ a Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of the building of the Penitentiary.

Jan. 13,  
Richmond

And whether it is expedient to employ a Superintendent of the making of guns in the Virginia Manufactory, in addition to the officers designated by Law in that Building. To inform the Executive that that Committee will meet in the Committee Room of the Senate at 10 o'clock to-morrow, when they will be obliged by any information on the subjects of Inquiry, which any member of the Council will be pleased to communicate.

I am, &c.

IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,  
January 13, 1804.

"Resolved that the Executive be requested to lay before the House of Delegates their contract with the undertaker of the machinery of the Manufactory of Arms."

J. PLEASANTS, JR., C. H. D.

\* \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

In answer to your favor of the 13th instant, I have to inform you that the Penitentiary Building is not yet entirely completed—that event however, it is reasonable to expect, will shortly happen, and whenever the building shall be completed, neither a Superintendent nor Assistant Superintendent will longer be wanted. In answer to your enquiry particularly made concerning the officers necessary to the Manufactory of Arms, I have to inform you that no officer is at this time employed about that building who is not expressly recognized by law.

Jan. 16

"The Superintendent of the making of the Guns," and "the Superin-

\* The above letter is without address or signature, but it is most probably the answer to that of Thomas H. Wooding, dated January 13th, 1803, and written by the Governor.—ED.

1804.      tendent of the Manufactory of Arms," is one and the same character—  
Jan. 16      either of these designations means one and the same thing.

The officer employed is Capt. John Clarke. The salary given him by law is £600, and he has never received one farthing more. Concerning the duties and compensation heretofore annexed to the office of Assistant Superintendent of the Penitentiary building, I beg leave to refer you to a letter from Capt. John Clarke, dated 14 January, 1803, this day enclosed to the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

I am, &c.

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W. J. CALLIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 16,      Acknowledging receipt of 130 stand of arms and 22 Bayonet scabbards  
Louisa      for the use of the 40th Regiment.

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SAMUEL SHEPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 17,      It appears by a hasty sketch from the vouchers (the books not being  
Auditor's      posted to this time) that warrants have issued for making arms from the  
Office      31st of January, 1803, to this day to the amount of Thirty-two thousand  
one hundred and six dollars and 16 cents. Your Excellency will, I hope,  
excuse this rough sketch from the suddenness of the application.

I have, &c.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 19      We have partially commenced the operation of making arms in the  
East wing of the manufactory, and in a few days the whole will be put  
in motion, when an additional number of artificers will be required. It  
is known in all the States to the north and Eastward, that we have a  
manufactory of arms at this place, but it is not known there that we are  
now wanting an additional number of workmen; for which reason I think  
it would be prudent to cause an advertisement to be inserted in the  
newspapers of such parts of the United States as would most likely pro-  
duce the workmen we require.

The armory is constructed for making all the implements of war, and  
when the Foundry for Ordnance shall have been completed, every species  
of arms may be manufactured therein.

As our works are now capable of making all kinds of small arms, and  
presuming it is meant by the Government that the making of arms for  
the Infantry, Cavalry, and Riflemen should be carried on at the same

time, so as to furnish each corps with its due proportion, I have to request information of the Executive upon this subject, which information is particularly necessary at the present time, as I am about to engage an additional number of artificers, who should be procured of such occupations as will suit the several kinds of arms to be made at the Armory.

1804.  
Jan. 19

I beg leave to add that in the manufactory of muskets, many scalps and barrels are refused, on account of flaws and other defects, the best parts of which would make good pistol barrels, for which reason I think the making of muskets and pistols should go hand in hand, particularly if there is to be no difference between the calibre of the muskets and that of the pistols.

Col. John Beale, who resides at or near Crow's Ferry, has lately made a proposition to furnish for the Manufactory of Arms a great number of musket stocks of black walnut wood at twenty-five cents each. I am inclined to believe he would furnish them at twenty cents, which is the price at which Mr. Thomas H. Prosser has agreed to deliver them at. I wish to be informed by the honorable the Executive whether they would be inclined to close with Mr. Beale at twenty cents should he agree to furnish a parcel at that price.

I am, &c.

THO. MILLER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for the Troop of Cavalry raised in Powhatan county.

Jan. 19,  
Richmond

MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking the means be provided for paying the salaries of John Tucker and Anderson Still, two assistants employed at the Penitentiary under the authority of the Executive on the 2nd of May, 1803.

Jan. 23,  
Penitentiary

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have received your letter of yesterday requesting me to furnish an estimate of the expenses of making arms during the present year, and also an estimate of the sums requisite to complete the public buildings here. In compliance have to state:

Jan. 24,  
Richmond

That we have partially commenced the operation of making arms in the east wing of the Manufactory, and in a few days the whole will be put in motion, when an additional number of artificers will be required. The works are constructed for the employment of one hundred and fifty

1804.  
Jan. 24,  
Richmond

workmen, which number it is supposed will make annually eight thousand stands of arms for the Militia, Infantry, and a proportionate number for the Cavalry. As soon as the above number of artists shall be employed, eighty thousand dollars will be necessary for the annual expense of making arms. This estimate is predicated upon the cost of the arms made at the Virginia Manufactory, which is about ten dollars per stand.

The Armory was designed for, and will be capable of making all the implements of war, and when the Foundry, &c., for Cannon and other ordnance shall have been completed, every species of arms may be manufactured therein. And as all kinds of small arms may be made there, and presuming it is meant by the Government that the making of arms for the Infantry, Cavalry, and Riflemen should be carried on at the same time, so as to furnish each corps with its due proportion of arms, I have to request information of the Executive upon this subject, which is particularly necessary at the present time, as the artificers yet to be employed should be well skilled in the fabrication of the several kinds of arms to be made at the Armory.

You have seen specimens of the Muskets and Rifles made at our works, and in a few days I will exhibit to the Executive a Sword and Pistol which I have caused to be made at the Armory, and which, if they approve, shall be the model by which the Swords and Pistols for the Virginia Cavalry may be manufactured.

Permit me again to suggest the propriety of permitting apprentices to be taken at the Manufactory of Arms on the same terms that private individuals take them.

In my annual report of the 4th of December, 1802, on the subject of the public buildings, I stated that it would probably require about five thousand six hundred and seventy-seven pounds to complete the Manufactory of Arms, from the state in which it then was. But as only ten thousand dollars were appropriated for that purpose by the Legislature at their last session, and as arrears to a considerable amount were due (for work which was unfinished and consequently not settled for at the time of my making my said report) and have been paid from the said fund of ten thousand dollars, there remained (of said appropriation) after the payment of those arrearages only three thousand and fifty-four dollars and twenty-six cents, which sum has been applied to the completion of the Manufactory of Arms in the last year. viz: 1803. For the discharge of arrearages due for work already executed, and for that which remains to be done for the completion of the Manufactory of Arms, four thousand seven hundred and sixty pounds will be required.

It may not be improper here to mention that those citizens who at the commencement of the establishment undertook to furnish materials for the completion of the Manufactory of Arms, as well as those who have undertaken to execute the work, are anxious to fulfill their engagements,

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Approved by the Board of Directors, June 11, 1970.

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There has been no collection of Taxes in the county of Norfolk for the following years, viz:

1804.	Revenue Tax of 1796,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,773 36
Jan. 25	" " " 1798,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,149 74
	" " " 1801.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,534 65
	" " " 1802.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,740 44

SAMUEL SHEPARD.

Auditor's Office, 25th January, 1804.

JOHN PAGE, GOVERNOR, TO THE ESCHEATOR FOR NEW KENT CO.

Feb. 2,  
Richmond

Subjoined I forward you an advice of the Council of State to which I request your attention.

I am, &amp;c.

IN COUNCIL, Feb. 2nd, 1804.

It is advised that the Governor be requested to write a circular letter to the Escheators of the several counties throughout the State, requiring that in future no Counsel be employed in aid of the County Attorney for the Commonwealth, without first obtaining the consent of the Executive.

Extract from the minutes.

Attest:

DANIEL L. HYLTON.

Henrico County, &amp;c.:

The oaths prescribed by law to be taken by the privy Council, have been duly administered unto Lyne Shackelford, Esq'r, this day.

Given under my hand the fourth day of February, 1804.

DAN'L L. HYLTON.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 2

Asking instructions as to the employment of increased number of workmen at the Manufactory of Arms. Also whether he should proceed to the completion of all the buildings of the Armory except the Foundry, including the Boring Mill.

Also what course is to be taken with those persons with whom contracts for materials and work have been made in case of suspension of the work.

Also asking that written orders be given, forbidding the repair of Fowling pieces for private parties at the Armory by the artificers.



ROB'T MITCHELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Being perfectly satisfied that it's impossible for me to continue any longer one of the Inspectors of the Jail and Penitentiary, not having time which I can call my own to pay that attention to the business which the law and my feelings dictate, please therefore to receive my resignation.

1804.  
Feb. 24,  
Richmond

I am, &c.

WILLIAM NEWSUM TO WILLIAM BROKENBROUGH.

Soliciting the appointment of Notary Public for Samuel Archer of Portsmouth, Va.

March 1,  
Norfolk

ALEXANDER QUARRIER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking that additional compensation be made him for the extra duty imposed on his office of receiving and delivering the public arms stored in the Capitol.\*

March 3

SAMUEL PLEASANTS, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that the additional thousand copies of his edition of the Revised Laws ordered by the General Assembly, have been completed and delivered.

March 3,  
Richmond

Samuel Coleman's receipt for the above lodged.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that the amount of money necessary for erection of the steeple on the Manufactory of Arms was included in his estimate for the completion of that building, and had been provided for in the last appropriation.

March 3

Contract between John Moody, Surveyor of the Falls of James River, and William Woodward is lodged, by which the said Woodward binds himself in the penalty of five hundred dollars to furnish all the necessary boats, tools, and hands and supplies, and to remove all the obstruc-

March 4

[\* A memorandum added to this paper declares that although the Executive are of opinion that extra pay should be given for this service, the Board did not feel authorized to give it.—Ed.]

1804. tions in the said Falls to the passage of fish, as described by the act of  
 March 4 the 24th of January, 1803, all to be completed to the satisfaction of said Moody prior to June 1st next.

For this service the said Woodward is to receive the Auditor's warrant on the Treasurer for one hundred dollars.

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March 12 The appointment of John Mitchell as Surveyor of the County of Hampshire, to hold during good behaviour, is lodged.

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SAMUEL PLEASANTS, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 16, Soliciting the office of Public Printer.  
 Richmond

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AUGUSTINE DAVIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 17, Soliciting the office of Public Printer. Offering to print 1,500 copies  
 Richmond of Laws of Congress for the State for twenty-five dollars per sheet.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 26, At the request of Messrs. Price and Underwood, I beg leave to inform  
 Richmond you that the Public Warehouse on the Canal, altho' not yet completed, is in a situation in which I think they may begin to receive tobacco therein.

I am, &c.

*Endorsement on Foregoing.*

We advise the Governor to qualify Messrs. Price and Underwood as Keepers of the Public Warehouse on the Canal, and that they immediately commence the duties of their office.

AL. McRAE,  
 A. STUART,  
 JOHN HEATH.

March 27, 1804.

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J. DIXON TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 29 Soliciting the office of Public Printer.

Commonwealth of Virginia,

To John Moody,

Dr.

1804.  
March 30

To 14 Quarts Spirits for 36 men for 7 days' work in Falls of James River, @ 33½,	- - - - -	\$ 4 69
To advertising in Argus 3 times,	- - - - -	1 50
" Do. Polit. Repository 3 times,	- - - - -	1 50
" Ferriages,	- - - - -	50
" William Woodward, his services,	- - - - -	100 00
		<hr/> \$108 19

MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of the escape of three prisoners on the previous evening from the Penitentiary. March 30,  
Penitentiary

MERIWETHER JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having accepted the appointment of the Commissioner of Loans for this State, it becomes illegal for me to continue longer as Public Printer. March 31

I am, &c.

John Moody's report as surveyor of the Falls of James River for removing obstructions to the passage of Fish, extending from Mayo's Bridge to Westham is lodged. March 31

T. Ritchie offers his and W. W. Worsley's services to the Executive for the office of Public Printer. March 31

In bringing himself forward as a candidate for this appointment, he does not pretend to decide on his own qualifications or those of his competitors or on the interests of the State. He merely wishes to express to the Council his willingness to discharge the duties of this office, and his decided belief that those duties will not be neglected should they devolve on him.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking instructions as to making the blades of Cavalry swords with single or double flute, and whether the scabbards should be made of Iron or leather; the latter advised. March 31

Gen'l Mason and Wm. Munford, Esq'r, having applied for the privilege

1804. of having each a sword made at the Virginia Manufactory of Arms, it  
March 31 is desired to know if this privilege can be granted.

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SAM'L PLEASANTS, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 4, Acknowledging receipt of appointment as Public Printer.  
Richmond

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PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 4, Enclosing copies of contracts with Minton and Anderson for the rent  
Richmond of parcels of public land in the county of Buckingham.

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HARRY HETH TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 7, Applications for Arms and Accoutrements for his Company.  
Manchester

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PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 12, Inclosed you will receive a letter to me from Mr. Irving the American  
Richmond Consul at London.

You will perceive that he has rendered important service to the State of Virginia, and has incurred a small expense which though trivial. the Executive can devise some mode to reimburse, by payment on his acc't at the United States Treasury or in some other way. I have intended for some time to mention this subject to the Executive; whether Mr. Irving will expect any compensation for his trouble in this business, or whether it would be proper to offer any, the Executive will decide.

The suit with Mr. Bristow's heirs is of great consequence, and involves a great Estate which they claim of the Commonwealth.

I am, &c.

Please return the papers when done with them.

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PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 12, I received your favor requesting my opinion on the proper means to  
Richmond stop the depredations on the public lands at Point Comfort, communicated to the Executive by Mr. Latimer, who acts as Superintendent of those lands. In the case of the Buckingham furnace land I applied to the Chancery Court for an injunction to stay waste, which has proved effectual in that instance, and has put a stop to further mischief. I think

## CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS.

3008

that the Executive had better direct an injunction to be applied for to the Williamsburg Chancery Court, and the agent, Mr. Latimer, can supply proof as to the persons against whom the injunction ought to be obtained, and if they go on afterwards to commit waste, they will incur all the consequences of a contempt, which will be a serious thing to them.

1804.  
April 12.  
Richmond

I am, &c.

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### JOHN THOMPSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting a Commission as Sheriff of Hanover in the room of Wm. O. Winston, whose term had expired, being next in the last nomination.

April 12,  
Hanover

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### JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding proposal of John Tinsley for making Pistol Holsters and Sword Belts.

April 14

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### JOHN STARK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Suggesting the propriety of purchasing in Philadelphia fifteen or twenty thousand seasoned gun stocks for the use of the Armory, which would soon be wanted. Also for the purchase in the same city of two thousand dollars' worth of Bar Iron for the same.

April 14

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### JAMES GREENHOW TO THE GOVERNOR.

Setting forth the necessity of more comfortable and healthy quarters for the Public Guard.

April 14

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### THOS. JEFFERSON, PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES, TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have this moment received your letter of the 12th instant, giving information of the combination formed for counterfeiting and circulating forged notes of the branch banks of the United States, and will immediately take such measures within the limits of the authority of the General Government as may most effectually co-operate with your endeavors to arrest and punish this practice, so dangerous to private as well as public interests.

April 15,  
Monticello,

With my just acknowledgements for this communication, accept my salutations and assurance of great consideration and respect.

## PRICE AND UNDERWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR.

1804.  
April 17,  
Public  
Warehouse

It is material for the convenience of the arrangements at this place that the Superintendents should be furnished with the following necessities to-wit:

One block and teakle, two planks of oak or popular 20 inches wide, 24 feet long,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick, for the purpose of reducing Tob'o hand spikes for rolling, &c., a patent balance for weighing. and a third prize (two having already been bespoke) for prizing.

About four hundred Hhds of Tob'o has been stored away without skids in this warehouse, which are to be restored upon skids; the Superintendents beg leave to represent to the Council (through you sir,) the hardship they will be subjected to if compelled to turn out that Tobacco and store it a second time, they having once complied with the requisites of the law, and hope they may be directed to hire hands at public expense for the purpose, or that Capt. Clarke may be as it is in their opinion reasonable and just; the Board will however give such instructions as they may deem proper and right.

We are, &c.

## SAMUEL BROOKS TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 24,  
Richmond

I thank your Excellency for the kind offer of protection which you have done me the honor to communicate. In my opinion, suitable arms for my personal defence will be sufficient. If your Excellency will be pleased to order such to be delivered to me, I have no doubt but I shall be perfectly safe.

I am, &c.

P. S.—The arms entrusted to me shall be taken proper care of and returned whenever it may be thought proper by the Executive.

## RICHARD ADAMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 28

The Quartermaster of the 19th Regiment has in his hands 40 muskets unfit for use, collected about Town from citizens removing and others. He waits on you with this for your instruction where to carry them to have them repaired. Part of one Regiment is still without arms. I am sorry to trouble you so often, but the arms in possession of Mr. West, as he will inform you, are getting worse every day. If repaired, might be put in the hands of the militia wanting them.

I am, &c.

## H. J. GAMBILL TO THE GOVERNOR.

There is in this county a tract of land which, in my opinion, is escheatable to the Commonwealth. The situation of this land is, that about 30 years ago a certain Thomas Jackson died seized and possessed of the said land, leaving no heirs that have ever claimed the same; but left a tenant on the land, who defends the right of the Commonwealth by saying that Jackson has heirs in the Kingdom of Scotland. I have, as Escheator of this county, had three juries impaneled according to law, neither of which could agree upon an inquest. The land is very valuable, being 230 acres, and lying in a very fertile part of the county. I shall by virtue of my office, proceed to hold another jury on the same soon as I hear from the Executive, and I have thought it my duty to make this communication to the Executive, and wish to be informed whether it would not be proper to employ counsel to assist the attorney for the Commonwealth. James Allen, Esq., the former attorney having lately resigned that office. The gentleman who at present fills it is a young man of first respectability, but a young lawyer, and will have the ablest attorney to contend with. If Mr. Grymes should be in Richmond, he will be able to give the Executive any further explanation on the business.

1804.  
May 13.  
Rockingham

I have, &c.

N. B.—Dunlop, the tenant, has proof that Jackson said that he had relations in Scotland, and this is what hangs the jury.

## SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting (on behalf of Capt. Bathurst Jones, of the Hanover Artillery Company, under his command) a supply of arms, under the act of 13th of January, 1803.

May 11,  
Richmond

A List of a Company of Light Infantry in the City of Richmond, viz: Geo. W. Smith, Capt.: Wm. Davidson, Lieut.; Geo. W. Dixon, Ensign; C. S. Chilton, Wm. W. Seaton, Robt. D. Richardson, S. Patten, T. Blackburn, N. White, Sam'l Leech, Jas. Parkinson, Wm. Frazer, A. Buckner, Rich'd Finch, Jas. Parish, Frs. Timberlake, Jas. Tolman, N. Timberlake, Lewis Coutts, A. Miller, P. Vandice, John West, John Andrew, Jas. Thompson, John L. Pleasants, S. Liggon, Jas. Lynch, Wm. Roberts, Jno. McNeally, Rich'd Lord, John W. Allen, A. Hare, J. Franklin, Wm. Barker, S. Barrett, P. Barret, John Lord, W. Ward, Henry Young, H. Kinmond, John Thoms, John McCormick, Wm. Lamb—40.

May 15

1804.  
May 15

We advise that Commissions issue appointing Geo. W. Smith, Captain, William Davidson, Lieutenant, and Geo. W. Dixon, Ensign, of the within Company of Light Infantry.

AL. McRAE,  
LYNE SHACKELFORD,  
A. STUART.

May 19th, 1804.

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WM. NELSON, JR., AND ARCH'D STUART TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 18,  
Suffolk

At the present District Court holden at this place, an order was made to send to the State of Delaware, a negro boy named George who was brought before the Court on a habeas corpus, it appearing that he was free, and had been kidnapped from the Town of Dover in that State, and it appearing also that a certain — Bonnet, who had brought him to this State, and in whose possession the boy was when the writ was awarded, had combined with one Enoch Gabb of Maryland and one — Clarke in this crime; the Court ordered Bonnet to be committed to goal until the Executive of this State may communicate with the Executive of Delaware, who will no doubt demand him on being notified of his arrest here. The enclosed affidavit will give the Executive more particular information on this subject, and we have no doubt but that body will take the proper steps to have the person accused of this inhuman offence, delivered on application of the Executive of Delaware.

We have the honor to be, &c.

WM. NELSON, JR.,  
ARCH'D STUART.

P. S.—The order of the Court is also enclosed.  
[The affidavit and order not found.—Ed.]

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THOMAS M. CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 18,  
Campbell

I have been informed that there is a further number of muskets, &c., in Richmond ready for the 53rd Reg't of Militia in the County of Campbell. To this Reg't there is a Company of Artillery annexed, who reside in the Town of Lynchburg, in which place there is considerable wealth deposited, and as the Captain and men display a military pride, *probably not equalled by many in the State*, in equipping themselves with complete uniform, &c., I beg leave to suggest the propriety of the Guns, &c., being sent to Lynchburg for their use. If, Sir, you should think proper to forward the arms to this Company, there can be an easy conveyance obtained up James River by Boats, and they can be sent directly to Captain Thos. W. Cocke, who resides in Lynchburg and commands the Com-



pany alluded to. I am informed that there is one field piece at New London that belongs to the State. This I would be glad to obtain leave to remove to Lynchburg for the use of the Company aforesaid, who would take the greatest care of it, and will have any repairs that are necessary made to the carriage, &c., at their own expense, and will return the same on application. As the Company will be very full and compleat, and as Captain Cocke shews an unexampled pride in instructing his men in their duty, &c., if it should be practicable and consistent with the arrangements made for the arming of the militia, I should be glad that his Company should be compleatly armed with all the necessary small arms and accoutrements, and that he should, if possible, be furnished with a small field piece in addition to the one at New London.

1804.  
May 18,  
Campbell

With trusting that these remarks and solicitations will meet your approbation,

I am, &c.

At a Superior Court held at Hay Market for the District composed of the Counties of Loudoun, Fauquier, Fairfax, and Prince William, the 19th day of May, 1804:

May 19

Present—The Honorable Paul Carrington, Jr., Esq., Judge.

On the motion of the attorney for the Commonwealth, it is ordered that Gwyn Page, Thomas Swann, William Tyler, and Edmund Brooke, Esqs., or any three of them, do view the present situation of the Court-House and Lott, the Clerk's office and Gaol of this District generally as to the state of repair in which these buildings now are, and report thereon to this Court.

A report of Edmund Brooke, William Tyler, and Thomas Swann, Esquires, three of the Commissioners appointed at this term to examine into the present situation of the Court-House, Lot, &c., returned, their report stating that the buildings were in bad condition.

W. C. NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

When I passed through Richmond on my journey to this town, I should have presented to your Excellency the resignation of my seat in the Senate of the United States, had I formed the resolution that I have now taken.

May 22,  
Norfolk

The President of the United States having offered to my acceptance the post of Collector of Norfolk, I came hither to decide after a more accurate view of the subject what measure I ought to adopt. The high honor that has been conferred upon me by my country, has never ceased to be duly appreciated with the fullness of gratitude which it so justly

1904.  
May 22,  
Norfolk

demands; and were I not conscious that a successor can readily be found more competent than myself to the duties of a Senator of the United States, nothing would induce me to ask permission to relinquish that responsible station. As it is, however, I trust that I shall not be considered as abandoning that affectionate attachment which I have always professed, and will never fail to prove on any occasion to my native State, when I enter into an office under the General Government.

Let me entreat your Excellency to receive this as my resignation, and when you communicate it to the General Assembly, suffer me to request them, sir, through you to receive my warmest acknowledgments for their kindness, and to be assured of my devotion to those principles which have drawn forth their successful efforts towards the establishment of our present happy system of affairs.

I have, &c.

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L. BOLLING TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 25      Informing him of the collection of £2.10 from William Anderson and £25 from Wm. Minton, amount of rent due by them to the Commonwealth on the public land in Buckingham county for the last year.

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MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 26,  
Penitentiary      Advising the removal of two Blacksmith Shops from the interior of the Penitentiary building to a spot opposite the front gate to be used as a Barrack for the Guard, in lieu of the room within the gate, which is much needed as depository of stores.

It is advised (by the Board) that the Governor inform Mr. Mims he may make the alteration wished for the accommodation of the Guard, and then use the rooms he requires; the work to be done under the inspection of Capt. John Clarke, who will take care not to exceed the appropriation made for the Penitentiary and yet unexpended.

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RICH'D ADAMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 30      In obedience to your letter of yesterday, I appointed Tunstall Banks the bearer of this, a Sergeant to take command of six men at the Jail as a Guard. He was on duty last night with his men; he waits on you to know what probable time he will be stationed there and on what establishment, when and where he may draw provisions and receive orders generally.

I am, &c.

J. MARSHALL, C. JUSTICE U. S., TO THE GOVERNOR.

The intelligence you gave me respecting an intention to rescue Logwood who is convicted of felony in the Court of the United States, would certainly have induced me to order a guard for his security, if the laws had entrusted the Judge with that power.

1804.  
May 31,  
Richmond

But I find no Act of Congress to that effect, and am therefore not satisfied that I ought to exercise it. I think it most advisable, that an application should be made to the Executive of the United States on this subject, where alone the requisite authority exists.

I am, &c.

JOSHUA WEST TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking instructions upon what terms the Guard at the Court house for Logwood is employed, and that the same be increased to eight men.

May 31

THOS. W. COCKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for the company of artillery commanded by him attached to 53rd Regiment, and for leave to take possession of a piece of artillery now at New London, and to have one additional piece furnished from Richmond.

June 6,  
Lynchburg

WILLIAM PRENTIS, MAYOR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of the finding by some boys of a parcel of counterfeit Bank Notes to the amount of \$880 secreted under a large rock near the Toll Bridge. Asking instructions as to the disposition of same.

June 8,  
Petersburg

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

For some years past I have endeavored to obtain from persons residing in various districts of the State all the information I could respecting the Ordnance belonging to the Commonwealth, which lie scattered about the Country in the same neglected state in which they were left at the end of the revolution—some pieces buried in the earth and others in the Rivers, where they were thrown in the course of the war to prevent their falling into the hands of the British army.

June 8,  
Richmond

I was induced to make these inquiries, well-knowing that we possess

1804.  
June 8,  
Richmond

very few cannon in proportion to the militia force of the State, and that we may, perhaps before we expect it, again stand in need of the service they may yet render, if the corrosion with rust for upwards of twenty years has not rendered them useless.

It now being the proper season for collecting the ordnance, I think it proper to communicate to you such information as I have obtained respecting it.

In the course of the administration of the late Governor (Monroe), I gave him all the information I then could, respecting the ordnance. An appropriation of money was afterwards made by the Legislature for their collection and preservation, but it has so happened that very little money could be afforded from the Treasury in the summer season (the proper time for collecting them), so that but few have yet been brought to this city.

From various sources, written and verbal, I have been informed that at a place called Hood's, on James River, about 70 or 80 miles below this city, there are between 20 and 30 pieces of ordnance of various descriptions, a part of which is very large. Some of them are spiked, and a few have their trunnions broken.

Capt. Shepherd, a citizen of Richmond, who is engaged in the coasting trade, informed me that at least a dozen of the guns from Hood's were carried on board the Frigates of the United States while they were preparing for sea at Norfolk, and that one of the said Guns now lies at the wharf at Portsmouth.

At the mouth of the creek on which is the landing of the College of William and Mary, there is one or more cannon—one piece very large.

At some place on the Eastern Shore (which place was not particularly designated to me) there is one brass 4-pounder, two iron 18-pounders, 3 iron 12-pounders, 3 iron 4-pounders, 3 iron 3-pounders, and 1 iron 9-inch howitzer.

At the old public ship-yard on Chickahominy river, in Charles City county, there are several pieces of iron ordnance, among which are one 18 and one 12-pounder. I was informed that when the British army ravaged the county of Charles City, several pieces of Cannon were thrown into a saw pit near the said ship-yard, where they now lie buried.

At Cumberland Town there are (or were) several large pieces of brass ordnance.

At Fredericksburg there is one or more brass pieces.

At New Castle, on Pamunkey River, there is one large iron gun.

At Norfolk and Fort Point, 4 iron 24-pounders, 13 iron 18-pounders, 16 iron 6-pounders, and 6 iron carronades.

At Williamsburg, 2 iron 12-pounders.

At the mouth of Falling Creek, about seven miles below Richmond, one large iron Gun.

At Four Mile Creek there were several iron Cannon, but I have been lately informed that within the last two years they have all been carried away by vessels from New England.

1804.  
June 8,  
Richmond

At South Quay some ordinance—their number and size unknown.

At a place called Diascon, on Chickahominy, there were 4 or 5 pieces.

At the Meadow Bridges, or near them, on the Hanover side of the swamp, 2 iron Cannon were carried and left when the Traitor Arnold led a party of the British Army to Richmond.

I have been informed that 8 pieces of Cannon were removed from Richmond to the fortifications about Norfolk by order of the then Governor Lee.

At Hanover Town there is a considerable quantity of cannon shot, bomb shells, and two or three iron mortar beds, most of which are in the river, but may be easily raised, the water not being more than from one and a half to two feet deep when the current is low.

As most of the ordinance above mentioned lie on navigable waters, and in their present neglected state may easily be carried away by vessels as ballast, and sold to great advantage in foreign ports for the arming of Privateers; and as there is great reason to believe that such illicit conduct has already been practiced in more than one instance; permit me to suggest to your Excellency the expediency of causing them to be collected with as little delay as circumstances may require.

. I am, &c.

P. S.—All the letters and memoranda I received respecting the ordinance I gave to Mr. Monroe. excepting the enclosed from Col. Newton which I afterwards received.

N. B.—To the ordinance above mentioned, are to be added those pieces mentioned in the enclosed letter of Col. Newton, which lie in Northumberland and Portsmouth.

NORFOLK, Oct. 6th, 1802.

I received yours of the 30th ult'o. *One 18 or 24 pounder lies under a bridge in Scott's Mill Dam, Nansemond. 1-12 Do. lies in Norfolk, taken from the British and ought to be kept for a memorial.*

*Some few, how many I cannot tell, lies in Portsmouth, and some wheels which are not worth removing being very rusty. There are some old rusty muskets and some Cartouch boxes which have fallen by various accidents into my hands lying in my store; the Cartouch boxes may do but the muskets are good for nothing.*

I know of none at South Quay; if there is any there, Mr. John Dorian who lives near it can inform you. The cannon in the forts the Gov'r has a return of.

One large piece lies at the mouth of the College of William and Mary Creek if not removed, and I have reason to believe several very fine brass

June 2  
Richmond

cannot have a full knowledge of the character of the individuals mentioned in your petition. I was shown the place where the petition is to be filed the next day of the month. By comparing they may be found if not necessary put up. I have given every information I know of, and if some of my notes will make it known as far as possible.

I am, &c.

THE SECRETARY

Dear Sir, I beg to inform you to get from Mr. Frederick Clark of the House of Delegates, if it is in his office, if not from Mr. John Brown, a copy of a law passed in one of the years 1791, 1792, 1793, or 1794, relating to the Parish of Elizabeth River in Norfolk County to buy lots instead of a house for the Minister. I do not remember the title, but it will show itself by looking over the Acts of those years. Let Deane destroy it here. Mr. S. Myers will pay the expense.

June 3,  
Lanier Co.

D. Yancy, 1st Lieut. Lanier Troop, soliciting arms for his company.

June 9

It is advised that a Company of Light Infantry, commanded by Capt. George W. Smith, consisting of sixty men of the 19th Reg't, be armed; and that Capt. John Clarke furnish the arms for that purpose from the 200 stand now in the Armory which have been cut down for Light Infantry, after they are stamped for the 19th Regiment, City of Richmond, and on receiving Col. Adams' receipt for them, according to the act passed the 28th of January, 1800, incorporated into the act passed at the last session "to amend and reduce into one the several acts of the General Assembly for regulating the Militia of this Commonwealth."

JAMES B. RICHARDSON (GOVERNOR) TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 10,  
North  
Carolina

The Legislature of this State have for some time past had serious intentions of changing the sanguinary penal laws by which the State has been governed, and of apportioning to crimes appropriate punishment by confinement and labour. To effect this purpose their attention has been turned to the establishment of a Penitentiary House, where culprits may be sentenced to confinement and labour for crimes which by law they are now to suffer death; but as it would be a matter of experiment with this State, and as a similar institution has been in operation in the State over which you preside, I am requested by the Legislature to obtain

from you all the information upon that subject you deem necessary, or is appertaining thereto, as well with respect to the edifice and the consequent expenses attending the erection, as to the governance of criminals and the laws defining the punishment of crimes.

1804.  
June 10,  
South  
Carolina

I have the more confidence in requesting the performance of the task hereby imposed, from the desire I presume your Excellency entertains of rendering every service in your power of ameliorating the condition of those unfortunate people who fall victims to a too sanguinary system. It would also be highly gratifying to have combined with the above information, your observations upon the establishment, the tendencies towards a multiplication or reduction of the number of criminals within your State, and of the instances of reformation. As the Legislature of this State will convene on the fourth Monday of November next, I shall hope previous to that period to receive your communications on the foregoing subject, when they may be submitted for their consideration.

I am, &c.

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E. CARRINGTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I do myself the honor, in compliance with the request of the Commissioners for the Bank of Virginia in Richmond, to transmit to you the enclosed Resolution, which announces an event that will doubtless afford pleasure to the Executive as well as to the great body of the citizens of Virginia.

June 11,  
Richmond

I am, &c.

At a meeting of the Commissioners for receiving subscriptions to the Bank of Virginia, in the city of Richmond, on the 11th of June, 1804:

Resolved, That the Chairman be requested to notify the Executive, pursuant to the 11th section of the law, that a sufficient number of shares have been subscribed for, to commence the operations of the Bank of Virginia.

Signed,

E. CARRINGTON, Ch'man.

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J. A. CHEVALLIE TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Declining the appointment of Inspector of the Penitentiary for a second term, on account of private business.

June 12,  
Richmond

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"The proper Commissioners," acting under the authority of the act entitled "an act for incorporating the Bank of Virginia," having (through

June 14

1804.  
June 14      their chairman, Edward Carrington, Esq'r,) informed the Executive that a sufficient number of Shares have been subscribed for to commence the operations of the Bank, It is advised that the Treasurer be requested, in pursuance of the requisition to that effect contained in the 11th Section of the act aforesaid, to subscribe on behalf and for the use of this State to the Capital Stock of the said Bank to the amount of Three hundred thousand Dollars, to be loaned to the State by the said Bank of Virginia at the rate of Interest not exceeding four per centum per annum.

June 16th, 1804.

The Commissioners of the Bank of Virginia having made verbal request to the Governor for Information whether the said Bank can be accommodated with room in the Capital until a more suitable place can be found, It is advised that the Governor grant Permission to the commissioners to use all such parts of the Treasury offices as the Treasurer will consent to spare, together with the office formerly used by the Attorney-General, and which is understood and believed by this Board will answer temporarily for the purpose aforesaid.

THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 23,  
Norfolk      Informing him of the depredations committed by the fishermen upon the timber growing upon the public land adjoining Old Point Comfort.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 30      Asking instructions as to whether the ration of the artificers commuted at 25 cents per day includes fuel for cooking and washing.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
RICHMOND, March 30th, 1804.

June 30      By the 4th Sec. of the Militia law, passed at the last session of the General Assembly, the Governor with the advice of Council, is authorized and required to arrange the Companies of Artillery into Regiments and Battallions in such a manner as to them may seem most convenient. It appears from the same section of the law that the troops of Cavalry were intended to be arranged into regiments and Squadrons, although it is not so clearly expressed as in the case of the Artillery. Under the former Militia law, the several companies of Artillery and troops of Cavalry in each division were formed into regiments respectively, and the num-



ber of the division affixed to those regiments. It remains to arrange those companies of Artillery into Battallions, and if the Council should so determine the troops of Cavalry into Squadrons and the Majors respectively assigned to them.

1804.  
June 30

By the 11th Sec. "the Governor with the advice of Council, shall and may cause the several companies of Artillery, Cavalry, Grenadiers, Light Infantry and Riflemen to be allotted by entire companies into divisions from 1 to 10 for a regular rotine duty."

Under the Militia Law passed in 1795, this was done, since which a Company of Artillery commanded by Thomas W. Cocke of Campbell in the first Regiment; also a company commanded by Robert Lewis of Caroline in the 2nd Regiment.

And a company by James White, of Washington.

Do. " John Koontz, of Rockingham.

Do. " David Long, of Harrison, in 3rd Reg't, has been organized.

Also a troop of Cavalry commanded by Thomas W. Todd, of Nottoway.

Do. by William Taylor, of Mecklenburg.

Do. " William Walker, of Bedford.

Do. " Edmund Tunstall, of Pittsylvania.

Do. " Thomas Shelton, of Cumberland.

Do. " Wm. Ruffin, of Brunswick.

Do. " James Barnes, of Lunenburg.

Do. " Greensville Penn, of Patrick.

Do. " Richard C. Claiborne, of Dinwiddie.

Do. " Peter Garland, of Henry.

Do. " Josiah Woods, of Franklin.

Do. " Mordecai Boothe, of Brunswick.

Do. " Joseph Sanford, of Halifax.

Do. " Robert Price, of Charlotte, in first Regiment.

Do. " Thomas Divers, of Albemarle.

Do. " Zephaniah Turner, of Culpeper.

Do. " Charles Quarles, of Louisa.

Do. " Thomas Hunton, of Fauquier.

Do. " Charles Tutt, of Loudoun.

Do. " William Armistead, of Amherst.

Do. " James M. Robertson, of Stafford, in 2nd Regiment.

Do. " John Lewis, of Bath.

Do. " Jesse Bennett, of Kanawha.

Do. " John Davis, of Monongalia.

Do. " Joseph Leach, of Monroe.

Do. " James Hite, of Berkeley or Jefferson.

Do. " William Martin, of Harrison.

Do. " Jacob Hale, of Pendleton.

1804.  
June 30

Also a troop by Robert Beaty, of Lee.

- Do. " Francis Smith, of Washington.
- Do. " John McDonald, of Frederick.
- Do. " William Steel, of Augusta.
- Do. " James Ward, of Wythe.
- Do. " Thomas Smith, of Grayson.
- Do. " Joseph Ker, of Ohio, in the 3rd Regiment.
- Do. " Elias Edmonds, of Lancaster.
- Do. " John Eyre, of Northumberland.
- Do. " John Revel, of Accomack.
- Do. " William Ball, of Northampton.
- Do. " Beverly Robinson, of King William.
- Do. " Thomas Plummer, of Westmoreland.
- Do. " William Peters, of Sussex.
- Do. " John Fort, of Southampton.
- Do. " Elliott Muse, of Middlesex.
- Do. " John Temple, of King and Queen, has sin

organized.

It remains to allot these companies and troops into routine from 1 to 10.

The Companies of Grenadiers, Light Infantry, and Riflemen ing to the Battalions of the Regiments numbered from 1 to 1 been allotted to their routine divisions from 1 to 10. Those belc the Battalions of the Regiments numbered from 103 to 114 re be so allotted.

With a view to the arrangement of the companies of artill troops of Cavalry into Battalions and squadrons, I herewith encl ments marked A and B, calculated to facilitate that arrangement

I have further to solicit the attention of your Excellency to t Section of this law, by which the Executive are authorized and : if the same shall not have been already done, to have a sufficie ber of copies of the rules of discipline established by a resol Congress of the 29th of March, 1779, printed and bound in b afford every commissioned officer of the militia one copy. Sinc lar clause in the Militia Law of 1792 was carried into effect, the of militia officers has considerably increased. It is respectf gested whether it be not advisable to call for a return of these r in the hands of the officers from the commandants of the R that the deficiency may be ascertained, and when deemed expd cured as directed.

I am, &c.,

SAMUEL COLEMAN  
Dep'y

*Statement A—Artillery, First Regiment.*

Captain Obadiah Smith,	Chesterfield,	4th Brigade.	1804.
" Gabriel Penn,	Patrick,	12th do.	June 30
" James Calloway,	Franklin,	12th do.	
" Thomas W. Cocke,	Campbell,	12th do.	
" George Waller, Jr.,	Henry,	12th do.	
" Thomas Read,	Charlotte,	11th do.	
" James Williams,	Dinwiddie,	15th do.	
" Theophilus Field.	Brunswick,	15th do.	
" Richard Bacon,	Lunenburg,	15th do.	
" James Wall,	Greensville,	15th do.	

By the above it would seem that the Artillery in the 4th and 12th Brigades ought to compose one Battalion, and that in the 11th and 15th another.

*Second Regiment.*

Captain Littlebury Weaver,	Fluvanna,	3rd Brigade.
" John Edwards,	Louisa,	3rd do.
1st Lieut. Mann Page,	Spottsylvania,	3rd do.
Captain Robert Lewis,	Caroline,	1st do.
" John Stevens,	Culpeper,	1st do.
" Robert H. Woodson,	Goochland,	3rd do.
1st Lieut. John Nicklen, Jr.,	Loudoun,	6th do.
" " John Stith,	King George,	5th do.
Captain William Harper,	Fairfax,	6th do.
" John Bronaugh,	Fauquier,	5th do.

*Third Regiment.*

Captain John Fackler,	Augusta,	7th Brigade.
" John Leyborn,	Rockbridge,	13th do.
" Almarine Marshall,	Wythe,	19th do.
" James P. Preston.	Montgomery,	19th do.
" William C. Bowyer,	Botetourt,	13th do.
" James White.	Washington,	17th do.
" John Koontz,	Rockingham,	7th do.
" James Dailey.	Hampshire,	18th do.
1st Lieut. David Humphrey,	Berkeley,	16th do.
" " Robt. Scott,	Monongalia,	10th do.
" " Sam'l Beck,	Ohio,	10th do.
" " James Singleton,	Frederick,	16th do.
" " David Long,	Harrison.	

*Fourth Regiment.*

1804.	Captain Joseph A. Myers,	Henrico,	2d Brigade.
June 30	" Bathurst Jones,	Hanover,	2d do.
	" John Lewis,	Gloucester,	14th do.
	1st Lieut. John Lord,	King William,	14th do.
	" " Richard Williams,	Prince George,	8th do.
	Captain George Price,	Isle of Wight,	8th do.
	" Daniel Butts,	Southampton,	8th do.
	" Peter Lugg,	Norfolk,	9th do.

*Majors of Regiments.*

First Regiment—Clement Carrington; Peter Johnson, of Prince Edward.

Second Regiment—John Bronaugh, Fauquier; John Stevens, Culpeper.

Third Regiment—Alexander King, Hampshire; James Taylor, Montgomery.

Fourth Regiment—Robert Goodwyn, Southampton; Samuel Coleman, Henrico.

*Statement B—Cavalry, First Regiment.*

1st Lieut. John Swann,	Amelia,	4th Brigade.
Captain Bolling Branch,	Buckingham,	4th do.
" Thomas W. Todd,	Nottoway,	4th do.
" Thomas Shelton,	Cumberland,	4th do.
" Dennis Kelly,	Campbell,	12th do.
" William Irvin,	Bedford,	12th do.
" William Walker,	Bedford,	12th do.
" —Greensville Penn,	Patrick,	12th do.
" Josiah Woods,	Franklin,	12th do.
" Peter Garland,	Henry,	12th do.
" James T. Johnston,	Pittsylvania,	11th do.
" John Cunningham,	Prince Edward,	11th do.
" Francis B. Cox,	Halifax,	11th do.
" Edmund Tunstall,	Pittsylvania,	11th do.
" Robert Price,	Charlotte,	11th do.
" John Wilder,	Dinwiddie,	15th do.
" William Taylor,	Mecklenburg,	15th do.
" William Ruffin,	Brunswick,	15th do.
" James Barnes,	Lunenburg,	15th do.
" Richard C. Claiborne,	Dinwiddie,	15th do.
" Mordecai Boothe,	Brunswick,	15th do.
" Joseph Sanford,	Halifax,	11th do.

Majors to this Regiment—Erasmus Gill, Dinwiddie; Peter F. Archer, Amelia.

*Second Regiment.*

in Clifton Garland,	Albemarle,	3d	Brigade.	1804.
Charles Barnes,	Amherst,	3d	do.	June 30
Archibald Randolph,	Goochland,	3d	do.	
Thomas Divers,	Albemarle,	3d	do.	
Charles Quarles,	Louisa,	3d	do.	
William Armistead,	Amherst,	3d	do.	
Thomas S. Long,	Culpeper,	1st	do.	
William Dade,	Orange,	1st	do.	
John Rouzee,	Madison,	1st	do.	
Zephaniah Turner,	Culpeper,	1st	do.	
eut. Stapleton Crutchfield,	Spottsylvania,	1st	do.	
in George Kemper,	Fauquier,	5th	do.	
Thomas Hunton,	Fauquier,	5th	do.	
James M. Robertson,	Stafford,	5th	do.	
William H. Powell,	Loudoun,	6th	do.	
Augusten J. Smith,	Fairfax,	6th	do.	
Charles Tutt,	Loudoun,	6th	do.	
ors to this Regiment—Thomas M. Randolph, Albemarle; John T. ford, Caroline.				

*Third Regiment.*

in William Steinburgen,	Shenandoah,	7th	Brigade.	
ieut. Benjamin Lewis,	Rockingham,	7th	do.	
in David Bell,	Augusta,	7th	do.	
William Steel,	Augusta,	7th	do.	
Alex'r Shield,	Rockbridge,	13th	do.	
John Beale,	Botetourt,	13th	do.	
Thomas Creigh,	Greenbrier,	13th	do.	
John Lewis,	Bath,	13th	do.	
Jesse Bonnell,	Kanawha,	13th	do.	
Abraham Bradley,	Washington,	17th	do.	
Robert Beaty,	Lee,	17th	do.	
Francis Smith,	Washington,	17th	do.	
Thomas Swift,	Grayson,	17th	do.	
Gordon Cloyd,	Montgomery,	19th	do.	
Joseph Leach,	Monroe,	19th	do.	
James Ward,	Wythe,	19th	do.	
Magnus Tate,	Berkeley,	16th	do.	
Ferguson Bell,	Frederick,	16th	do.	
James Hite,	Berkeley or Jefferson,	16th	do.	
John McDonald,	Frederick,	16th	do.	
Robert McClure,	Ohio,	10th	do.	

1804.  
June 30

Captain John Davis,	Monongalia,	10th Brigade.
" Wm. Martin,	Harrison,	10th do.
" Joseph Ker,	Ohio,	10th do.
" Jacob Hall,	Pendleton,	18th do.

Majors Third Regiment—Robert Grattan, of Augusta; Hugh Holmes, of Frederick.

*Fourth Regiment.*

Captain John Ambler,	James City,	2d Brigade.
" William Austin,	Henrico,	2d do.
" Benjamin Oliver,	Hanover,	2d do.
" Burwell Bassett,	New Kent,	2d do.
" Archibald Ritchie,	Essex,	14th do.
" Vincent Branham,	Richmond,	14th do.
" George W. Boothe,	Gloucester,	14th do.
" Elias Edmunds,	Lancaster,	14th do.
" Wm. Ball,	Northumberland,	14th do.
" Beverley Robinson,	King William,	14th do.
" Thos. Plummer,	Westmoreland,	14th do.
" Elliott Muse,	Middlesex,	14th do.
" John Temple,	King and Queen,	14th do.
" Canfield Seward,	Surry,	8th do.
" James Riddick,	Nansemond,	8th do.
" John Baird, Jr.,	Prince George,	8th do.
" Wm. Peters,	Sussex,	8th do.
" Joshua Fort,	Southampton,	8th do.
" Littleton W. Tazewell,	Norfolk,	9th do.
" John Eyre,	Northampton,	9th do.
" John Revel,	Accomack,	9th do.

Majors—Peter B. Whiting, Gloucester; Tunstall Banks, Essex.

## ABRAHAM B. VENABLE, SENATOR OF U. S., TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 5,  
Richmond

A variety of considerations have made it necessary that I should resign my situation as Senator of the United States. You will please to accept this as a notification in order that the vacancy may be filled if it should be deemed necessary by the Executive, before the next meeting of Congress. I cannot help on this occasion expressing the greatest regret I feel on relinquishing an office conferred on me by the General Assembly before the term of service contemplated had been completed, but the greatest length of time that I have been in the public service, has so far disabled me from attending to my private affairs as to make this measure rather a matter of necessity than of choice.

Be pleased to accept assurances of my high respect, and believe me to be with great regard, your obedient servant.

THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Resigning the appointment of Superintendent of Quarantine at Norfolk.

1804.  
July 6,  
Norfolk

HENRY ST. JOHN DIXON, WILLIAM KING, JAMES WHITE, AND  
DAVID CAMPBELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

The undersigned four of the persons appointed by a resolution of the General Assembly at their last session, to wait on the Legislature of the State of Tennessee and enter into proper stipulations for opening the navigation of the River Holstein, take the liberty to request that your Excellency will address a letter by the hand of the Commissioners to the Governor of the State of Tennessee, notifying him of their appointment and the object of their mission.

July 7,  
Abingdon

Considering the importance of the object to be attained in the opening and improving the navigation of the River Holstein, we have made this request, being well persuaded you will afford every assistance which you may deem necessary for its accomplishment.

The Legislature of Tennessee will meet at Knoxville the 23rd instant. You will please forward your communications inclosed to the Commissioners there, as they will leave this place before the mail can arrive here.

We have the honor, &c.

JOHN IRWIN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your Excellency's favor of the 28th of December ult'o, and a copy of an Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia, for confirming and establishing the boundary line between that State and the State of Tennessee came duly to hand.

July 11,  
Knoxville

I have the honor herewith to transmit to you an authenticated copy of an Act of the General Assembly of this State, passed on the 3rd of November, 1803, entitled "An act confirming the boundary line between this State and the State of Virginia as settled and designated by certain commissioners."

I have, &c.

JOHN CLARKE AND ALEX'R QUARRIER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of the delivery of two hundred and two pair of Holsters and two hundred and three sword belts by Capt. John Tinsley. The character and condition of the leather not satisfactory.

July 14

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J. FORT TO THE GOVERNOR.1804.  
July 20,  
Southamp-  
tonSoliciting arms for his company of Cavalry.

---

## JOSEPH SHELTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 20,  
AmherstSoliciting arms for his company of Cavalry.

---

## JAMES C. STEPTOE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 3,  
Liberty

It is probable you may have through the medium of public remorse, heard of the death of Colo. Trigg, the member of Congress for this District. It is certainly true, he died on the 28th June last. The vacancy occasioned by his death must be filled by a new election, and it is believed the writ for that purpose must be issued from the Executive authority of the State; if this opinion be correct, will your Excellency be pleased to take the subject under consideration and let a writ issue as early as possible, that it may generally be known throughout the District. Were I permitted to suggest a time for holding the election, it would be the September Court days of the respective Counties as most proper and convenient.

I have, &c.

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## W. WHITAKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 3

Solicits appointment as clerk at Penitentiary.

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## NATHAN'L W. PRICE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 3

Solicits appointment as clerk at Penitentiary.

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## MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 11

Asking for the appointment of Harrison Gordon as clerk of the Penitentiary in the room of Wm. Dabney who has accepted a clerkship in the Bank of Virginia.

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## WM. WEST TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 11,  
Richmond

Solicits appointment as clerk at Penitentiary.



The Manchester Troop of horse solicit arms and accoutrements.

1804.  
August 11

---

ALLEN TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Accepting appointment of Agent for Commonwealth to purchase and dispose of the land of John Smyth the late Sheriff of Botetourt County under execution for the Revenue of 1801. August 15

---

WM. MORGAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Resigning commission as Superintendent of Quarantine at York Town and recommending Peyton Smith for the office. August 21

---

JAMES GREENHOW TO THE GOVERNOR.

Suggesting a house belonging to the State lately occupied by Robert Cooley as a hospital for the Public Guard. August 25

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WILLIAM B. GILES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your favor of the 12th instant, accompanying the Commission of Senator of the United States was duly received by the last mail and should have received immediate attention, had not the most afflicting indisposition almost from that time to the present prevented it. August 27,  
Amelia

I have now to inform you, sir, that I accept the appointment, although from the present state of my health I have little reason to hope that I shall be enabled to discharge the duties thereof either with advantage to the public or satisfaction to myself. Upon the ascertainment, however, of so unfortunate an occurrence, the office will be instantly resigned.

Be pleased, sir, to make my sincere acknowledgments to the Council of State for the confidence they have reposed in me, both in conferring the appointment and the manner of conferring it, and assure the Gentlemen composing that Board that I entertain for them individually, the Highest respect and consideration.

I thank you, Sir, for the very polite manner in which you have made the communication to me, and I beg you to receive unfeigned assurances of the high consideration I have always had for your public and private character.

Be pleased to accept the best wishes of my heart for your health and happiness.

---

SAMUEL SHEPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

1804.  
Sept. 7,  
Auditor's  
Office

Informing him that since the first day of October, 1,803 warrants, amounting to Fourteen Thousand one hundred and ninety-eight dollars and six cents, have been drawn on the Contingent Fund. Nine of these warrants, he conceives, were properly chargeable to other Funds, for which there were appropriations.

---

JOHN CLARK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 7

Asking instructions as to which of the pieces of Ordnance scattered about in the rivers and elsewhere in the State, of which he encloses memorandum, may be considered as belonging to the State, in order that he may take steps for their recovery.

---

W. WHITAKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 10,  
Penitentiary

Having been appointed Clerk of the Penitentiary, conceives it improper to officiate longer as an Inspector to that institution, and tenders his resignation.

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PETER GUERRANT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 16

Prays that the suit instituted against him for failure to fulfill his contract respecting the building of the Public Warehouse be dismissed.

---

ANDREW MOORE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 20,  
Rockbridge

I received your letter informing me of my appointment by the Executive a Senator in the Congress of the United States. I have delayed an answer for the purpose of ascertaining the wishes of the District on the subject, and also the probability of a Republican successor in the District.

I am now advised and accept the appointment. I accept it with great diffidence of my own abilities. But I beg leave to assure you, and the members of Council, that my utmost endeavors shall be employed for the interest of our common country.

I am, &c.

## L. BOLLING TO THE GOVERNOR.

Resigning the agency for superintending the public lands in Buckingham and collecting the rents on same. Recommending Colonel William Cameron for the position.

1804.  
Sept. 20

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Acknowledging receipt of an order of Council of the 25th ult. requiring to be furnished "a statement of all the arms of every description which have been completed at the Manufactory of Arms from the commencement of operations therein to the first day of last July, and regular statements of all arms completed and which shall be completed at the said Manufactory to be rendered at the expiration of every quarter of a year from and after the said first day of July last." In answer, calls attention to his monthly statement on each pay-roll of amount of work done in all the stages thereof as a preferable exhibit.

Sept. 22

That no augmentation of the force has been made, not knowing the intention of the Legislature as to further appropriations. That on account of the want of punctuality in the monthly payment of the artificers, some had left; others suffered by having to sell their claims at a heavy discount to support their families.

Urging the purchase of seasoned gun stocks and other supplies for the Armory.

## RATIFICATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

The Governor laid before the board a notification from the Secretary of State of the U. S., that the amendment proposed at the last session of Congress to the constitution of the United States has been ratified by three fourths of the Legislatures of the several States.

Sept. 24,  
Department  
of State

It is thereupon advised in pursuance of an act of Congress, passed at the last session, entitled, &c., that the Governor cause a transcript of the said notification to be delivered to the Electors to be appointed to choose a President and Vice-President of the U. S., at their meeting at Richmond in Dec'r next for that purpose.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, Sept. 24, 1804.

I have the honor to notify you in pursuance of the Act of Congress, passed on the 26th of March last, entitled "An act supplementary to the act entitled 'An act relative to the election of a President and Vice-President of the United States, and declaring the officer who shall act as

1804.  
Sept. 24,  
Department  
of State

President, in case of vacancies in the offices both of President and Vice-President, ' ' that the amendment proposed during the last session of Congress, to the constitution of the United States respecting the manner of voting for President and Vice-President of the United States, has been ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several States, to-wit, by those of Vermont, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. I request you to be pleased to acknowledge the receipt hereof.

I have, &c.

JAMES MADISON.

BOTETOURT COUNTY, VA.,  
September 14th, 1804.

*To his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council of State:*

We the subscribers with Alexander Patrick, commissioned by his Excellency for the purpose of carrying into effect the act to amend the act entitled an act to amend an act entitled an act for appointing Electors to choose a President and Vice-President of the U. States.

The purport of this letter is that whereas Alex'r Patrick is removed to the State of Kentucky, and Thomas Rowland is commissioned as high Sheriff of Botetourt County, we therefore recommend Alexander Wilson and James Tapscott, Gentlemen, as fit persons to be commissioned in the room of said Rowland and Patrick to carry the aforesaid act into effect.

We are with submission and esteem, your most obed't,

THOMAS ROWLAND,  
JOHN MOORE.

THOMPSON MASON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 25,  
Fairfax

The enclosed Letter was put into my hands by Col. Albert Russell, commandant of the 57th Reg't of militia, who has stated to me that his domestic concerns are such at present as to make it a desirable thing for him to resign the command of the Regiment, but he is unwilling to do so unless a proper character can be found to succeed him. Col. Russell is a valuable officer—served with reputation during the revolutionary war, is a decided Republican, and will be a great Loss to the Brigade. This renders it the more requisite that a respectable and suitable character should, if possible, be selected to supply his place. The officer next in rank to Col. Russell is not only a bitter federalist, but is totally unqualified to discharge the duties of such an office, yet on account of his

political tenets. If a recommendation is made by the County Court, he will in all probability be the person recommended. Major Armistead Long, who is mentioned by Col. Russell in the inclosed Letter, is a very respectable character, a decided Republican, and will, I have no doubt, make an excellent officer. What Col. Russell wishes (if the Executive approves of it) is that without a recommendation from the Court, a commission should be sent to Major Long as Commandant of the Regiment. If, however, the Executive cannot do this, Col. Russell has desired me to request that his Letter may not be considered as a resignation.

1804.  
Sept. 25,  
Fairfax

Whilst upon the subject of the militia, permit me to call your attention to the present deranged state of the 60th Regiment in Fairfax county, which has been for some months past without a Col. Commandant. The Col. of this Regiment resigned early last spring; the County Court made no recommendation until July, when they nominated Capt. Aug't J. Smith, of the Cavalry, to the Command of the Regiment, but no commission has yet been sent to him.

During the present year, from Resignations, deaths, and removals, so many vacancies have happened that I am told that not more than half the number of officers necessary are now in commission, consequently the militia is much neglected; and these vacancies, I understand, will not now be filled until a Colo. Commandant is commissioned. The time for the regimental muster is fast approaching, which must be a very imperfect one with so small a proportion of officers to the Regiment and without a Colo.

If therefore the Executive have no particular reason for withholding from Captain Smith the Colonel Commandant's commission, it would perhaps be advisable to forward it as soon as possible, that some arrangements may be made for the Regimental muster and for putting the Regiment in a better state than it is at present.

I am, &c.

LOUDOUN, *Sept. 20th, 1804.*

My situation at this time makes it necessary that I should resign the command of the 57th Regiment of Militia, but will do it with reluctance if the next officer in rank should succeed me. I consider him a very improper person to be intrusted with it. He is perhaps known to you, having served last session from this county in the Legislature, and was elected purely upon party motives, and I suppose if the Court recommends, he will be promoted to the command of the Regiment, and perhaps upon the same principles.

Major Armistead Long resides in the Regimental district and will accept the command if the Executive should think proper to give it to him. I think he would be a very good appointment.

I am, &c.

A. RUSSELL.

## THOS. NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1804.  
Sept. 27,  
Norfolk

I have just returned from the south end of the Canal, and I find only that exertion and some money is wanting to partially use it, and the completion may be going on at the same time if the shareholders will come forward. I think the boats may pass through by next summer, unless an uncommon wet season should happen. What was deemed impracticable, is now found to be the reverse, and that it may be effected with ease and safety, and every obstacle easily got over, and a constant supply of water from Drummond's pond may be obtained to carry boats through in the dryest seasons.

Our town is healthy as to old settlers as yet, and I believe not one in 60 or 70 take any fever of strangers. I cannot learn from the accounts I receive, that fifty inhabitants of all kinds have died this fall. The weather is favorable, and I hope the summer is broke.

I am, &c.

## JOHN HEATH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 30

Opposing the appointment of Win. Whitaker as Clerk at the Penitentiary by the Board as an interference with the prerogative of the Keeper of that institution.

Oct. 2

The Treasurer being enjoined to close the accounts of his office on the 30th of September annually, we the underwritten, a Committee of the Executive for that purpose, appointed at the request of the Treasurer, repaired to the treasury on the morning of the first of October, in order to ascertain the amounts of money and other facilities actually in the treasury received on public accounts, and constituting the balance due therefrom on the 30th day of September, 1804; and having examined and carefully counted and weighed the money, we find it amounts to one hundred and twenty-four thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight dollars and ninety-eight cents.

Given under our hands at the Treasury the second day of October, 1804.

W. FOUSHEE,  
ALEX'R STUART,  
JOHN HEATH.

## JACOB WAGNER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 5,  
Department  
of State

In the absence of the Secretary of State, and agreeably to an act of Congress entitled "an act for the more general promulgation of the

Laws of the United States, passed 3rd of March, 1795, and an act in addition thereto passed on the 2nd March, 1799, I have forwarded to your Excellency by Captain Thomas Creighton, five boxes containing one thousand four hundred and thirty copies of the Laws of the United States, 2nd Session, 7th Congress, being the proportion of the State of Virginia.

1804.  
Oct. 5,  
Department  
of State

I have the honor, &c.

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SAM'L PLEASANTS, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Proposing to print copies of the laws passed at the last session of Congress for the use of the Commonwealth.

Oct. 6

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JOHN CUNNINGHAM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for the use of his company.

Oct. 13

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Thomas Nicholson offers to print 1,500 copies of laws of Congress, for two hundred and eighty-three dollars and ninety-two cents, by the first of January, 1805. Accepted.

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BENJ'N PARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of the arrival of a vessel with a case of small pox and of his enforcement of the quarantine on said vessel.

Oct. 28,  
Fredericks-  
burg

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JOHN TINSLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that he would by the 3rd of Nov. be prepared to deliver a sufficient number of Holsters and sword belts to equip four companies.

Oct. 28

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\*J. P. TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Being requested by the General Assembly to continue a Correspondence which was begun with you by my predecessor, Governor Monroe, upon the subject of certain of their resolutions of the 31st of December,

Oct. 29,  
Richmond

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\* Governor John Page, as the text proves.—Ed.

1804.  
Oct. 29,  
Richmond

1800, and of the 16th of January, 1802, and which was renewed by me, whether you have received any further information respecting the Sierra Leone Company's disposition to treat for a permission to make use of their land as an asylum for the persons described in those resolutions.

And as the resolution which has made it my duty to trouble you on this interesting subject appears to me to refer principally to your valuable suggestions respecting Louisiana (as they were the subject of the extract of your letter which was communicated to the Assembly and occasioned this resolution), I must also request that you will be pleased to inform me whether the Legislature of the Union will consent to such a disposition of any part of that country, as appears to be the wish of the Legislature of Virginia. Should you still think that Louisiana may afford the desired asylum for the free negroes and mulattoes and such as may be hereafter emancipated, you will be so good as to state that wish to Congress confidentially; but should you judge it prudent to delay the further prosecution of this delicate business till the practicability of carrying into effect the views of the Legislature of this State with respect to the removal of at least 19,000 free negroes and mulattoes (the number according to the last census) out of it and into a distant country has been maturely considered, you will only be so good as to communicate to me your further ideas at your leisure on this interesting subject. I sincerely wish to procure the asylum contemplated, and I believe that if a fund could be raised and applied annually to the purchase, removal, and education of young slaves as soon as of a sufficient age for those purposes, in a few years we might be disembarassed of those many disagreeable circumstances which gave rise to our present enquiry, and might not such a fund be raised by the voluntary contributions of the benevolent throughout America and Europe, aided by a moderate Tax on slaves?

I think that a better regulation of our police and a proper vigilance would be sufficient for present purposes as to the free negroes and mulattoes, and that it would be dangerous to attempt a removal of any but such as may be emancipated hereafter. But I should wish to send them to Sierra Leone, or to St. Domingo should that Island be acknowledged by the French free and independent (an event, however, at present not to be expected), and that none but the uncorrupted youth, who should be educated and trained up in principles and habits which might render them worthy of the freedom conferred on them, should be sent into Louisiana.

I have thrown out these hints for your consideration and correction, and have delayed writing on this perplexing subject till I had lost all chance of being able to discuss it fully in a free conversation which I had flattered myself I could have enjoyed with you.

I am, &c.



THO. LUNSFORD LOMAX TO WM. BROKENBROUGH.

Soliciting a Commission as Notary Public at Fredericksburg.

1804.  
Oct. 30,  
Fredericks-  
burg

SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the honor to enclose to you the report of the acting Inspectors of the Penitentiary, in pursuance of the 20th regulation for the internal government of that institution. Their present official situation will, it is hoped, account and be an excuse for the little information contained in the said report. During the whole of the last month they have been fully occupied by those duties of their respective public offices, which could not be dispensed with.

Nov. 1

*Report.*

The undersigned, acting Inspectors of the Jail and Penitentiary house, on the expiration of their time of service as such, beg leave, in pursuance of the 20th regulation for the internal government of the said Jail and Penitentiary house, respectfully to report that they have executed the duties assigned them, as well by the acts of the General Assembly requiring their appointment as by the said regulations, as will appear by their minutes, made in a book kept for that purpose and herewith submitted.

That shortly after the representation ineffectually made of the situation of Merryman, with a view to obtain his discharge from confinement, he departed this life.

And that in consequence of the inadequacy of the salary allowed the assistants of the Keeper, he is unable to engage such as are fit for the service, and of course that the strict observance of such of the regulations above mentioned as are predicated on the Keeper's having a competent number of assistants has been dispensed with.

They know, however, of no omission of duty on the part of the Keeper, prescribed by the said regulations, likely to produce an injurious effect. The undersigned are indeed so fully persuaded of the correctness of his principles, the goodness of his heart, and the vigilance and activity of his conduct in the discharge of the important duties assigned him, that they are happy in this opportunity of giving their decided testimony in favor of his fitness for the office he holds.

The undersigned have to add, that during the two months they have attended as acting Inspectors, twelve of the convicts, whose time of confinement had expired, have been discharged, and seven have been admitted, as will appear on examination of the minutes before mentioned. The whole number now in confinement is eighty-eight.

WM. MOSELEY.

SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Richmond, November 1st, 1804.

## WILLIAM MOSELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

1804.  
Nov. 4,  
Treasurer's  
Office

In the absence of the Attorney-General, when the Stockholders met to choose directors, &c., for the Bank, I felt it my duty as agent for the State to obtain \*the inclosed opinions of Messrs. Hay and Wickham for my government in the vote I should give, for which they expect a fee, the amount of which is left blank. It remains with the Executive to say what the sum shall be and how paid.

I am, &c.

[\*Not found.—ED.]

## THOS. JEFFERSON, PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 10,  
Washington

Your several favors of the 3rd instant have been duly received on the affidavit of Greenlaw which you were so kind as to enclose, the necessary measures will be taken. That which covered claims of reimbursement from the Treasury of the U. S., on the prosecution of Logwood has been considered by the Secretary of the Treasury within whose department it is; he states as follows, that the account for a guard has been allowed; that if the transportation of forging materials was necessary for conviction, the six dollars should be paid by the marshal; but that the three large items in favor of Underwood, Allen and Booker being gratuities for certain meritorious conduct, are not within the competence of the Executive of the U. S. to allow; that claims of this character must be made to Congress. I return you the papers therefore, to be used as the foundation of such a claim, should you think proper to have it brought forward by your Senators in Congress, the constitutional organ for that purpose. I will also have a consultation with your Senators from whom or from myself, you shall hear further on the subject. The separate application on behalf of Brookes, is equally beyond our competence; it differs from the public claim only as it is proper he should come forward individually by petition to Congress, which he may have presented by a representative to the H. of Representatives or the Senate as he pleases.

Your favor of October 29th rec'd, at the same time shall be the subject of a separate answer. Accept my salutations and assurances of great esteem and respect.

I am, &c.

## THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 16,  
Norfolk

I now enclose the Report of the President and Directors of the Dismal Swamp Canal, by which will be seen the progress that has been made—

the am't of Tolls received for not a half of the Canal. If it was completed it would repay the adventurers a handsome interest for the money advanced. The one mile and a half which is to cut could soon be finished half the width; that would effect the navigation for the boats described in the report, and would not retard the completion of the Canal to the full width; the ground being left on the East side could be dug whilst boats were going on the west side. It is designed to cut, and it must be effected, a small canal from Lake Drummond to the main Canal, about three miles distance, which would supply the main Canal with water in the driest seasons and increase the Tolls greatly. This could be done in a season if dry. We want nothing more than public spirit to push so desirable objects. The Canal opens into all the waters of North Carolina, and is convenient to great part of Virginia, especially those living on the waters of Roanoke, Meherrin, Nottoway, and Black-water rivers. Much produce that is now almost useless to the inhabitants in those places would yield them considerable profit if they had water carriage to market. Our funds being exhausted, it is necessary they should be replenished to finish the work, and I hope the Assembly will grant such aid as will enable us to complete it.

I am, &c.

The President and Directors of the Dismal Swamp Canal Company have the mortification of still reporting to your Excellency the unfinished state of the Canal, owing to the scarcity of our funds to hire laborers in these parts of the country; but few will hire their hands to work on the Canal. There still remains one mile and a half to cut to make a communication between the waters of Elizabeth River and of Pasquotank, to bring boats through large enough to carry twenty hogsheads of Tobacco or ten M three feet shingles. The road is now passable for foot passengers and horses through the whole swamp, and during the winter we expect it will be finished for carriages. The present impediment is from the mud being thrown upon the causeway, which when spread will soon dry and make a good road. About 16 miles of the Canal is cut the full width from four to five feet deep; four and a half is cut half the width from three to six feet in depth, and the mile and a half to cut could in three months be cut in the spring if the season is dry. A lock has been just built about six miles from the north end to raise the water, so as to facilitate the navigation now carrying on in the Canal. About three more locks will be sufficient when the Canal is completed to carry vessels through. The foundation of the largest one, at the south end, is fixed and in good order for building the sides and gates up, which have been impaired.

The temporary locks at the south end are in order to pass boats of the size above mentioned. The amount of Tolls from the Canal and Mills

1804.  
Nov. 16,  
Norfolk

1804.  
Nov. 16.  
Norfolk

as the north end from the 2nd of August, 1802 to the 5th of May, 1804, is \$5,459. The Tolls at the south end we cannot at present ascertain, as we have not reports from our Collector. They will be trifling to the sum received at the north end.

Upon the whole, from the best calculations we can make, twenty thousand dollars will be wanting, which with the amount arising from the Tolls we have every expectation would finish the Canal and locks and complete the roads. Our funds are so exhausted that it is necessary for the stockholders to increase them by loan, and the amount of the Tolls to be applied to the payment of the principal and interest, or in such manner as they shall deem best. Some of the stockholders here have subscribed a loan of twenty dollars on each share. If all would follow their example, the works would be made passable for such boats as is before described by August or September next, and the whole we expect could be completed according to the intention of the act for cutting the Canal by September, 1806.

We have thus laid our situation before your Excellency that it may be communicated to the General Assembly, which we hope will grant us their aid in finishing so desirable an object.

THOMAS NEWTON, President,  
RICHARD BLOW,  
WM. VAUGHAN.

Norfolk, Nov. 16th, 1804.

Produce of the Mills and Tolls of the Dismal Swamp Canal, from August 2nd, 1802, to the 5th of May, 1804, viz:

1802.—By so much earned by the Mill from January 2nd last, to this date, as p'r Sam'l Weston's acc't settled, - - -	\$1,212 93
1803.—Jan'y 18th, by Do. from Aug. 2nd to this date, - -	499 11
July 1st, " Tolls rec'd by W'st'n to this date p'r ac't,	915 37
" " " Cash rec'd from Th's. Wallace ac't tolls,	233 00
1804.—May 5th " Am't of saw mill ac't earned to this day,	920 94
" " " of grist mill ac't Do.	643 44
" " Toll of shingles from Ap'l 6, to July 6, 1803,	329 00
" " " " Do. from July 6, to this day, -	696 36
" " " " Staves - - - - -	8 85
	<hr/> \$5,459 00

DAN'L L. HYLTON TO THE COUNCIL.

Nov. 19 There has been several returns made this day from Counties a great distance, particularly the Counties of Monongalia and Tazewell; the

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~THESE TWO MEMBERS HAVE BEEN IN THE HOUSE SINCE 1877~~  
~~AND HAVE BEEN IN THE HOUSE SINCE 1877~~  
~~AND HAVE BEEN IN THE HOUSE SINCE 1877~~

~~THESE TWO MEMBERS HAVE BEEN IN THE HOUSE SINCE 1877~~  
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~~THESE TWO MEMBERS HAVE BEEN IN THE HOUSE SINCE 1877~~  
~~AND HAVE BEEN IN THE HOUSE SINCE 1877~~  
~~AND HAVE BEEN IN THE HOUSE SINCE 1877~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Inclosed you have a Certificate of the election held on the 19th instant  
to fill the vacancy in Congress occasioned by the death of the  
ance of an appointment to the Senate of the United States

The Sheriff of Kinshaw, you will see from the face of the certificate  
has not come forward as the Law directs, from what reason he has  
failed is not yet known.

I am, Sir, your, &c.,

JOHN CANNON,  
Sheriff of Rockingham Co

WM. B. GILES AND ANDREW MOORE, MEMBERS UNITED STATES,  
TO THE GOVERNOR,

Your favor of the 19th instant, with its enclosure, was duly received,  
and we have given to its contents the most respectful consideration.  
The respective claims made on the part of Virginia against the govern-  
ment of the United States are now under consideration at the proper  
offices, and as soon as decisions are had thereupon shall be subject of  
another communication.

As Senators of the State of Virginia holding our offices under the  
five appointments we find ourselves placed in a delicate situation by  
the terms used in our respective commissions respecting the present  
duration thereof.

The words are: Until the next meeting of the Legislature. It is  
well known to the law that we are for the meeting of the Legislature  
our offices would, in the event of a new election, be for the meeting  
of the next month. It has been an usual practice of the Legislature  
to meet in the month of January.

1804.  
Nov. 28

ture, the time would be both uncertain and unknown, at least at this distance from the place of meeting, for it sometimes happens that there is no efficient meeting of either branch of the Legislature on the day fixed for that purpose, and it often happens that there is a meeting of one Branch and not of the other that day. Both these interpretations would be attended with many serious inconveniences. The State might on the most important questions be left without a vote.

In the event of its members being on committees, and particularly if either of them should be chairman of a committee, however important the business might be to the State, it would either be arrested from them or suspended until the pleasure of the Legislature should be known respecting the appointments.

The members themselves during the interval, would be left at their own expenses in an unpleasant state of suspense, and in case of a reappointment, according to the rules of the Senate, would be entitled to receive their travelling expenses to and from their respective homes, which would amount to more than the per diem allowance unless the interval should be very considerable.

Other consequences of a similar nature would probably arise from the foregoing constructions.

Under these considerations, and also under an impression that the words may be construed to relate to the time of the meeting of the Legislature for the particular purpose of reviewing Executive appointments, we have determined, unless some exception should be taken thereto, from some other quarter, to continue in the execution of our official duties until the pleasure of the Legislature shall be known respecting the appointments. We have at the same time thought it our duty to communicate our doubts in these respects to you, and the more so, as we are advised that our predecessor, Col. Taylor, thought under similar circumstances that his office absolutely ceased on the day fixed by law for the meeting of the Legislature.

That you may, if it should be deemed advisable, present the subject to the General Assembly for their consideration.

Be pleased, sir, to accept assurances of our most respectful consideration.

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JAMES B. RICHARDSON, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 28,  
Columbia  
S. C.

I have duly received your communications accompanying your letter of the 5th instant, which respects a flagitious outrage committed against the peace and dignity of the State over which you have the honor to preside, by George Foley and Joseph Morel, who it appears are charged with the commitment of the murder of Lewis L'Orient. Receive assu-

rances of my causing the most efficient measures to be used for the discovery and arrest of the said fugitives from justice should they come within the limits of the State of South Carolina, and so soon as the same should be effected, will advise you immediately thereof. Suffer me further to assure you, sir, of my readiness at all times to reciprocate with you in the suppression of villainy.

1804.  
Nov. 28,  
Columbia  
S. C.

I am, &c.

STATE HOUSE FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,  
Richmond, 6th December, 1804.

Received of Major Samuel Coleman a sword, belt, &c., for John Jouett, Esq., of the State of Kentucky, which was voted him by the Legislature of Virginia for meritorious services rendered in the \*year —.

JOHN FOWLER.

\*1781.—ED.

DECEMBER 6TH, 1805.

Received of the Electors of President and Vice President of the United States, a paper containing the return of their votes for President and Vice President, made on yesterday, to be kept by me according to law.

CYRUS GRIFEIN, District Judge.

PRICE AND UNDERWOOD, SUPERINTENDENTS, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Representing the Public Warehouse to be an unsafe depository for Tobacco on account of leakage.

Dec. 7,  
Pub. Ware-  
house

Rockbridge County, to-wit:

John Bowyer, Charles Campbell, John Houston and John McCaukey are aged and infirm and very seldom attend court.

Dec. 8

John Gay, Joseph Walker, James Gilmore, William Moore, David Edmundson, Matthew Hanna, James Caruthers, Jas. McDowell, John Caruthers, (present Sheriff) Alexander Shields, John Wilson, Joseph Grigby, Wm. Lyle, John Leyburn, William Wilson and Andrew Finley are the Magistrates who principally give their attendance in court; all the others are dead, removed out of the county, and disqualified by accepting offices under the Government of the United States, except James Campbell who has not for some time past taken his seat in court, and now is

1804.  
Dec. 8      said to be removed out of the county. Andrew Finley is said to keep the Post Office at Brownsburg, and Andrew Alexander was commissioned the second day of January, 1802, but has not yet qualified.

I, Andrew Reid, clerk of the court of said county, do hereby certify that I believe that the above is a correct statement of the Magistrates commissioned for this county, except as to the removal of James Campbell, and Andrew Finley keeping the Post Office, which are circumstances not within my own knowledge but from information.

A. REID, C. R. C.

Dec. 8th, 1804.

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MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 10,  
Penitentiary      In obedience to a request contained in your letter dated 24th of September, I enclose you a \*statement of the accounts of the Jail and Penitentiary house, being a summary of the payments for raw materials, tools, maintenance of prisoners, clothing ditto, stationery, Keeper's commissions, and amount paid sundry prisoners when discharged.

Also amount received for manufactured articles sold. &c., from the 5th December, 1803, to the 1st of December, 1804.

I am, &c.

\* Statement not found.—En.

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BENJ. DAY, MAYOR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 13,  
Fredericks-  
burg      I beg it to be attributed to my absence from town that I have not sooner acknowledged the receipt of the letter you did me the honor of addressing to me the 19th ultimo, accompanying an extract from the Journal of the Executive Council, dated 3rd of November. I have communicated it to the Magistracy of this Corporation. They have been particularly active in their exertions to suppress the baneful practice of Gaming, and I flatter myself will continue to do the best they can in obedience to the recommendation of the Executive.

I am, &c.

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PRICE AND UNDERWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 13      Informing him of complaints of the unsafe condition of the Public Warehouse on account of rain driving under the eaves of the roof and wetting the Tobacco.

Recommending that a floor be laid in the upper story for storing Flour.



SAMUEL SHEPARD TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

An act of Assembly of '96 directed the Treasurer to subscribe for one hundred shares in the Appomattox Canal Company, which at \$100 each, is \$10,000, and an act of the session of 1801 directed a further subscription of twenty-five shares at \$100 each, makes in the whole \$12,500. There was no specific appropriation until the session of 1801, when \$1,000 was appropriated, and at the session of 1802, \$500, and in 1803, the further sum of \$750 was appropriated.

1804.  
Dec. 14,  
Auditor's  
Office

I am, &c.

Mr. Shepard is requested to state in writing that the last payment of 625 Dollars was made, 500 Dollars thereof on the appropriation of the 500 Dollars, and 125 Dollars in part of the last appropriation of 750 Dollars, if it was so.

S. COLEMAN.

Appomattox Canal Co.

To the Commonwealth,						Dr.
1797—March 4, to a warrant for	-	-	-	-	-	\$2,000
“ Dec. 14, Do.	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
1798—Jan'y 22, Do.	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
1799—April 9, Do.	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
1801—Dec. 11, Do.	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
1802—Oct. 18, Do.	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
1804—Jan'y 11, Do.	-	-	-	-	-	625
						<u>\$10,625</u>

S. SHEPARD.

SAMUEL SHEPARD TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

The warrants for six hundred and twenty-five dollars that issued on the 11th of January last, were considered by me as the first requisition of the additional subscription to the Appomattox Canal Company made by the Treasurer in behalf of the State pursuant to the enclosed order of Council. I certainly could not then consider the \$125 as a part of the \$750 appropriated by an act of Assembly that passed subsequent to the issuing of the warrants above mentioned.

Dec. 15,  
Auditor's  
Office

If I have mistaken the sense of the order of Council can only say that I am sorry for it.

I am, &c.

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 RO. ANDERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1804.  
Dec. 17,  
Williams-  
burg

Informing him of the bad condition of the arms in possession of the Williamsburg Militia, as found by him on assuming command, and requesting an exchange for good arms.

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## ROBERT MITCHELL, MAYOR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 25,  
Richmond

Having a moment of time to spare, I take that opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your letter enclosing the advice of our Council of State, bearing date the 3rd of last November, and yours of the 19th of same month. It did not come to hand at that date or for many days after. I have done all in my power to prevent that evil of unlawful Gaming within this city pointed out by you; besides, it encourages the unguarded youth in Idleness, vice, and Immorality. You may depend on my doing all in my power to prevent such violation of our laws, and punish them when detected.

Your favor of the 24th Inst. came very late to hand on the evening of that day. Had I rece'd it early in the day, I might have had it more in my power to have its contents put in execution more compleat in order to comply with your wish and my own desire. On the 23rd Inst. I wrote Maj'r Wolfe to furnish a Serg't Guard out of the militia, in order to aid our city Patrol to patrol the city and its Jurisdiction during the Christmas Holydays, which has been complied with, but it does appear to me to be impossible to prevent firing what is called Christmas Guns, being an old established custom, although there is an ordinance of the city police fixing a fine of 5s. for every offence of firing Guns within this city. The addition of the militia to the city patrol may prevent in part the evil pointed out to me in your letter.

I am, &c.,

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## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 25,  
Man'f'y  
Arms

In my letter of 22 September, addressed to you, I stated the cause which prevented an increase of the number of Artificers, and kept but a small force employed in the Manufactory of Arms the present year. A repetition of that cause at this time is therefore deemed unnecessary. Permit me now to present you a statement of the progress made in the operations of making arms in the year between the first of December, 1803, and the 1st December, 1804, in which year we have manufactured the following articles, viz.

[Then follows list unnecessary to copy here.—ED.]

It will appear by the documents which have been laid before the Executive, that the expenses charged to account of the operations of the Manufactory of Arms between the 1st December, 1803, and the 1st of Dec'r, 1804, amount to thirty-two thousand five hundred and twelve dollars and thirty-three cents. A part of that sum, however, has been applied to the making of numerous tools and apparatus required for the various operations of making arms, and also to the purchase of bedding, &c., for the artificers, which articles are rather to be considered as necessary appendages of the institution than immediately appertaining to the actual manufacture. Since my last annual report on the subject of the operations of this establishment, the machinery, &c., of the East wing of the manufactory has been put in motion, and both wings being now in operation, the works are ready for a much greater force than has been employed there. And beside Muskets, we have commenced the manufacture of Rifles, Swords, and Pistols. We have lately been reinforced by about thirty artificers, making the whole number at present employed amount to eighty-seven, including boys and rough hands, and we yet expect a small increase of the number.

1804.  
Dec. 25,  
Man'f'y  
Arms

It affords me much pleasure to announce to the patriots under whose auspices this institution has been founded and supported, that as far as it has progressed, it fully answers the most sanguine expectations I had formed of its success, and that, besides being a nursery for useful artisans, it promises to be an economical establishment.

But let me again suggest the propriety of permitting apprentices to be taught the several branches of making arms at the Virginia Manufactory. At present we cannot, under the authority of any existing law, engage to supply apprentices at the public expense with food, cloathing, and a small share of plain education, which would be all the expense the Commonwealth would sustain, while a ten-fold remuneration would be made by their service for several years, so that while we are making useful mechanics, and diffusing a necessary art throughout the State, we should greatly diminish the expence of making our arms. These considerations, I trust, will induce the Legislature to sanction by law the taking of apprentices at the Manufactory of Arms upon the same terms as they are taken by private individuals, or upon such other conditions as they may deem proper.

To the people of our State it must be pleasing to reflect how greatly the prospect has changed with respect to obtaining arms for our numerous militia; that instead of relying for our weapons of defence upon the uncertainty of obtaining them from nations separated from us by an immense sea over which they tyrannize, we can now manufacture them in the bosom of our State without a dependence upon any foreign country or nation of the earth. That formerly for the purchase of arms, sums to a large amount were sent out of the country, but now the money paid

1804.  
Dec. 25,  
Man'f'y  
Arms

for arming our Militia is kept in circulation among our citizens, and tends to encourage their skill and industry while it increases our trading capital and national wealth. That formerly the arms purchased, were of various forms, sizes and calibres; now they are manufactured with uniformity in all their parts—each distinct class being made of one construction. That the arms formerly obtained by purchase, were procured by the contractors upon the cheapest possible terms, so as to make all the profit they could from their contracts with the Commonwealth; consequently the arms were of inferior quality. The workmanship of their component parts was executed without being inspected by any agent of the Commonwealth until those parts were put together in the form of a musket. in which form they were inspected—not taken to pieces and each distinct part separately examined as the complete inspection of a gun would require; for want of which, arms of the most indifferent quality have been imposed upon the Commonwealth. But at our Manufactory the arms are made of the best materials and all their component parts, (however minute) are strictly and repeatedly examined, each part undergoing an inspection of the several branches through which the work progresses to completion; and this inspection is made by agents deeply interested in the faithful execution of the work, who by daily experience have become the best judges. That by trusting to the precarious medium of obtaining arms on contract with individuals, by whose death, bankruptcy, or various other casualties, the supplies were subjected to interruptions and failure, and the State disappointed, having made herself dependent on individuals for arms for the militia. In such a dilemma, a new contract was to be sought for; but when found, there was no more certainty of the fulfilment of his contract than in the former case, so that for arms even of the worst quality, and at an exorbitant price, we could not calculate with any degree of certainty upon a supply. Thus has the Government for years been thwarted in the great object of arming, until at length wearied with impositions and disappointments, and recollecting her own vast resources, possessing within herself inexhaustable stores of all the materials proper for the purpose, the Commonwealth has established a Manufactory of Arms at the metropolis of the State, on a site which in point of great natural advantages, is perhaps without a parallel in any country, where even now in the infancy of the establishment, we are manufacturing arms of a quality greatly superior to any we have purchased, as an examination and comparison of them will evince, and at a cheaper rate, as the pay roll in your possession will prove.

Here the transactions of the institution are carried on and all the disbursements made under the eye of the Executive.

Here the Representatives of the people at least once a year have an opportunity of inspecting the operations of the manufactory, and of obtaining personally all the information they may deem necessary, and

here I trust the Legislature will permit the youth of our country to be taught the important art of making the weapons upon which we must rely for the protection of our Rights.

1804.  
Dec. 29.  
Wm. J. A. 1804.

I am, &c.

THOS. JEFFERSON, PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Resuming the subject of the resolutions of the House of Delegates of Dec. 31st. 1800, January 16th. 1802, and Feb. 3rd. 1804, I have it not in my power to say that any change of circumstances has taken place which enables me yet to propose any specific asylum for the persons who are the subjects of our correspondence. The Island of St. Domingo, our nearest and most convenient recourse, is too unsettled in the conditions of its existence to be looked to as yet for any permanent arrangements, and the European nations having territories in the same quarter, and possessing the same kind of population, are not likely to risk any change in the present state of that population. Whether the inhabitants of our late acquisition beyond the Mississippi or the national legislature, would consent that a portion of that country should be set apart for the persons contemplated, is not within my competence to say.

Dec. 27.  
Washington.

My last information as to Sierra Leone is that the company was proposing to deliver up their colony to their Government. Should this take place, it might furnish occasion for another effort to procure an incorporation of ours into it. An attack during the war has done the settlement considerable injury.

I beg you to be assured that having the object of the House of Delegates sincerely at heart, I will keep it under my constant attention and omit no occasion which may occur of giving it effect.

Accept my affectionate salutations and assurances of great respect and consideration.

WM. B. GILES AND ANDREW MOORE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your favor of the 17th instant, covering the proceedings of the Council of State of the day preceding relative to the services of Samuel Brooks, has been duly received, and we have given to its contents the most respectful attention.

Dec. 20.  
Washington

Whilst we approve of the liberality of the Executive of Virginia in compensating Mr. Brooks for the important services rendered by him to the community, and whilst we applaud the zeal of applying to the General Government to render that compensation more liberal, we deem it our duty to observe that we think there is not the least probability of success attending the application. If Mr. Brooks had made the applica-

1804.  
Dec. 29,  
Washington

tion himself by petition, it is believed that no precedent could be found to justify a compliance with it; much less would be the chance of success by a mere voluntary application. unattended with his request.

We are informed that the Government of the United States has heretofore applied to the Bank of the United States to be indemnified for the expenses of all prosecutions which have been carried on against the counterfeiters of the paper of that Bank, and had received peremptory refusal even to participate in any expenses whatever incurred in this respect. This circumstance would tend to lessen the disposition of the General Government to make gratuitous compensation upon that particular subject.

We unite with the Executive of Virginia in rendering our tribute of applause to Mr. Brooks for his hazardous and meritorious services, and if in our power would take great pleasure in being instrumental in procuring him an adequate compensation.

We are, &c.

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WM. B. GILES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 29,  
Washington

Your polite favor of the 17th instant, covering the proceedings of the House of Delegates of Virginia of the 7th, respecting the appointment of a Senator of the United States, was duly received.

The confidence reposed in me by the Legislature of Virginia in appointing me to that honorable office, has excited sentiments of the sincerest gratitude and respect, and although I am apprehensive from ill health and other causes that the services the public has a right to expect from me in my official station may not be realized, yet I do not think myself at liberty to avoid an attempt to discharge the duties in the best manner of which I am capable, to which I have been called by my country in so honorable a manner.

It will be necessary to forward my credentials to me at this place before the 4th day of March next, as the new Senate will necessarily be called on that day for the purpose of attending the inauguration of the President and Vice President of the United States.

Be pleased, sir, to accept my sincere thanks for the polite manner in which you have communicated my appointment, and believe me to be, with sentiments of the most respectful consideration,

Your friend, &c.

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JOHN S. WESTWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR.

1805.  
Jan. 3,  
Richmond

Enclosing commission of Thomas Watts and resignation of same as Wreck Master for Elizabeth City county, and recommending John Toppin for said office.

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Answering complaints made by sundry parties against the safety from rain of the Public Warehouse, with comparison between this warehouse and others in Richmond and Manchester.

1805.  
Jan. 10,  
Man'f'y  
Arms

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sending his report on the contract of Micajah Davis for delivering the slate for the Public Warehouse, which he states to be: Slate delivered at Rocketts at 2½ per cent. on the cost; State to take no risk, but to pay freight.

Jan. 10,  
Man'f'y  
Arms

## JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

His Report to the Board of the amount of the unsettled claims against the Commonwealth on account of work done on the Public Warehouse.

Jan. 11

All claims settled except the following: James Goodwin for slating not finished and therefore not measured. One for iron work, and one made by Micajah Davis for interest on money advanced for slate, and Insurance on same from New York to Rocketts.

## ABRAHAM MORGAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Representing the inconvenience to the members of the 55 and 67th Regiments, growing out of the division of the County of Berkeley taking from it the County of Jefferson.

Jan. 15

Asking that an order of Council be made that the 67th Regiment shall be composed of all the Militia within the County of Berkeley; and the 55th Regiment of the Militia of the County of Jefferson, and make the lines between the Counties of Berkeley and Jefferson the division between the 67th and 55th Regiments.

In that case the 55th Regiment will still be composed of 18 or 19 companies comprehending about 1,000 effective Militia.

The Bond of William Moseley as Treasurer of the Commonwealth for one year from the time of his appointment, in the penalty of one million of dollars is lodged.

Jan. 15

## JOHN CLARK TO THE GOVERNOR.

1805.  
Jan. 15

As a considerable number of Holsters, sword belts, cartridge boxes, brush wipers and pickers will be required for arming the Militia of the State, and there being a number of convicts confined in the Penitentiary house, capable of executing the simple work required in the Manufactory of those articles, I submit to your consideration whether it will not be proper to have them made by such convicts.

I am, &c.

## HH. HOLMES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 19,  
Richmond

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for Capt. Benjamin Stephenson's Company of Light Infantry of Jefferson County.

Resolved, That the Executive be instructed to equip out of the arms and accoutrements of the Commonwealth, two troops of Cavalry in the neighborhood of the Chesterfield Coal Pits and the Troop of Cavalry in Goochland County, subject to the same conditions on which arms are delivered to the Militia by law.

Agreed to Jan'y 26th, 1805.

CREED TAYLOR, Speaker of the Senate.  
H. HOLMES, Speaker H. D.

## JOHN TEAKLE, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 5,  
Accomac

Asking the appointment of another Commissioner of Wrecks in place of William Polk, now too infirm for the duty.

## RO. SAUNDERS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 7,  
Williams-  
burg

Asking for the appointment of a Notary Public for Williamsburg, and recommending Joseph Prentis, Jr., for the office.

## THOMAS GHOLSON, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 14,  
Brunswick

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for Troop of Brunswick Cavalry.



THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing of the insubordination among the negroes of Isle of Wight county.

1805.  
Feb. 14,  
Norfolk

Recommending Dangerfield Starke for appointment as Notary Public for Norfolk.

IN COUNCIL, *Feb. 23rd, 1805.*

It is advised that Doctor John Brokenbrough be appointed Commissioner to lay off and establish the Boundaries of the city of Richmond in conformity to the act entitled "An act to ascertain and establish the limits of the city of Richmond," passed at the last session of the General Assembly.

A true extract from the Journals of the Council.

JOHN GALE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Enclosing for his approval and signature, a Diploma as Surveyor of Spotsylvania county, granted by the President and Professors of William and Mary College.

Feb. 18,  
Spotsylvania

Brunswick County, February Court:

Aaron Browne, Willie Harrison, James Blick, and Charles Cordle is by the court recommended to the Executive as fit and proper persons to execute the office of Coroner, and the Court is further of opinion that two is requisite in said county.

A Copy—Teste:

HERBERT HILL, Cl'k.

FRENCH SUB-COMMISSARY RECOGNIZED.

The Governor having at the instance of the Sieur Oster, sub-Commissary of Commercial Relations of his Majesty the Emperor of the French for the Port of Norfolk, in this Commonwealth, laid before the Council letters patent granted by the President of the United States, under the seal of the said States, recognizing the Sieur Oster in his said official character, it is advised that the same be copied and registered, and that the Governor be requested to inform the Sieur Oster that this measure has been adopted, and that to secure the respect due to the exercise of the functions of his said office, nothing is now necessary but the publication of the Exequatur granted by the President of the United States as aforesaid.

February

*Proclamation.*

1805.  
February

The Sieur Oster having produced to me by commission as Sub-Commissary of Commercial Relations of his Majesty the Emperor of the French for the Port of Norfolk in the State of Virginia, I do hereby recognize him as such, and declare him free to exercise such functions, powers, and privileges as are allowed to the similar agents of the most favored nations.

In testimony whereof I have caused these letters to be made patent, and the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington, the eighteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and four, and of the independence of the United States of America the twenty-ninth.

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

By the President:

JAMES MADISON, Secretary of State.

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JOHN COGBILL, JAMES LYLE, AND TWELVE OTHER CITIZENS, TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 18,  
Manchester

Praying the appointment of a Notary Public for Manchester.

March 23

The Superintendent of the Manufactory of Arms having furnished a sample Rifle, in which a part of the barrel is round, a bayonet adapted to it, which bayonet is beyond the usual length, and the mounting of iron instead of brass, for the inspection and approbation of the Executive, it is advised that the said Gun be approved, and that in future the Superintendent may pursue this pattern, and that he will also adopt the same form of the bayonet of this Rifle to the Muskets hereafter to be made, the increased length of the bayonet being considered an improvement.

March 26

The bond of Sam'l Pointer and securities as contractor for furnishing provisions to Public Guard is lodged. Penalty, five thousand dollars.

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THOS. M. KEAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 5,  
Lancaster  
Pa.

I have the honor to enclose a copy of an act of the Legislature of this State, on the subject of improving the navigation of the Ohio River, which

has been passed in consequence of a Resolution of the Legislature of Kentucky, dated December the 9th, 1803. The commissioners on the part of this State will be appointed in pursuance of the provisions of this act, and will be ready to meet the commissioners of the other States, (if those States shall agree to appoint such commissioners) at such time and place as shall hereafter be agreed upon. You will therefore be pleased to give me early information of the names and places of abode of the commissioners for your State (if such should be appointed) in order that co-operative measures for this purpose may be taken.

1805.  
April 5,  
Lancaster  
Pa.

I am, &c.

THOS. M. KEAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the honor to enclose copies of a distinct resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which has been proposed by the State of Kentucky; and to request that you will lay the same before the Legislature of your State for their concurrence and co-operation.

April 5,  
Lancaster,  
Pa.

I am, &c.

At a meeting of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Council, held at the Court-House in the city of Williamsburg, an ordinance passed requesting Ro. Greenhow, Mayor, to advise the Executive of the State of Virginia that a number of Iron 9 and 12 pound balls were lying in the Magazine yard in the city subject to the delapidation of any that choose to carry them off, and that they have been for a long time Instruments in the hands of the mischievous to break down the walls thereof. It was also suggested that Francis Bright, Capt. of the Revenue Cutter, had some years ago received part of them, which it was conceived the Government of the United States was chargeable with; the number of which might probably be ascertained by himself.

April 11,  
Williams-  
burg

In compliance with which Requisition, the above is respectfully submitted by their most obed't,

RO. GREENHOW, Mayor.

April 11th, 1805.

CITY OF RICHMOND,  
*In Common Council, April 27th, 1805.*

The Hall this day proceeded agreeably to notice, to the nomination of a Mathematical Surveyor of the said city pursuant to the act of the

April 27,  
Richmond

1886  
April 2,  
Richmond

General Assembly of last session in that case made and provided. And upon examination of the ballots a majority of votes was found in favor of Mr John Wood, which is ordered to be certified to the President and Professors of William and Mary College.

Tenue:

ANDREW STEVENSON, Clerk.

**JOHN KEEN TO THE GOVERNOR.**

May 1,  
Centerville

Relating to the surrender of a negro slave in the jail of Berkeley county, who escaped from Montgomery County, Maryland, belonging to said Keen, whom the Virginia authorities refused to surrender without the sanction of the Executive.

**JAMES MILSON TO THE GOVERNOR.**

May 10,  
Mechlen-  
burg

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for his Company in the first Regiment and first Division.

**JOSE TEACKLE TO THE GOVERNOR.**

May 10,  
Accomack  
County

Informing him of the willingness of Mr. Polk to surrender the office of Commissioner of Wrecks on account of his inability, and recommending William Parramore, Esq., for the said office.

**STAPLETON CRUTCHFIELD TO THE GOVERNOR.**

May 10,  
Fredericks-  
burg

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for his Company of Cavalry, numbering 41.

**DAVID CHISHOLM TO THE GOVERNOR.**

May 10,  
Hanover

Soliciting arms for his company of Infantry in the 74th Regiment of Militia.

Report of Martin Mims, Keeper of Penitentiary, of the number of Arms distributed by him under the several acts for arming the militia of the Commonwealth and those remaining on hand May 18th, 1805:

Total for Infantry,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	15,918
Not issued,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,568
Not on hand,	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	257

17,743

Swords and belts issued for Capt. Bathurst Jones' company Artillery at Hanover Town, 51. Swords with belts, 59; Pistols, 60; Holsters, 59, Capt. Richard C. Claiborne's Troop, 1st Reg't Cavalry, Petersburg. Swords with belts, 50 for Capt. Thomas W. Cock's Company Artillery at Lynchburg.

1805.  
May 16,  
Hanover

Return of arms and accoutrements made by Alexander Quarrier in the Arsenal at the Capitol:										May 18
Total of Muskets in good order,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,764
Swords for Cavalry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	325
Do. " Artillery, Boarding Swords,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600
Do. Belts,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	192
Boxes of Pistols,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Holsters for Pistols,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	192
Cartridge Boxes,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Powder, pounds,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	850
Old Muskets, unfit for service,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,000
Old Cartridge Boxes, unfit for service,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
Old Belts, unfit for service,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600

LUKE WHEELER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Pursuant to the fourth section of the act of Assembly passed 21st January, 1801, concerning slaves, free negroes, &c., it hath become my duty as an Alderman of this Borough to transmit to you copies of certain proceedings had upon two coloured persons which appear to have been brought into this State for sale by a transient person who calls himself Peter Wilkes Green, or Col. Green, of the State of New York, who now is, or a few days since was, going at large within this Borough.

May 20,  
Norfolk  
Borough

I am, &c.

Norfolk Borough, to wit:

Whereas complaint has been made to me by Hann Baker, that a certain Col. Green, contrary to the fourth section of an act of the Virginia Legislature entitled "An act to reduce into one the several acts concerning slaves and free negroes," has brought into this Borough from the city of New York a negro girl who calls herself Nancy Albert, and who states that she was born free and has heretofore lived in the said city; and also a negro boy, who calls himself Cuffey Spencer, and says that he is a slave, but has only ten years to serve.

These are therefore to command you, in the name of the Commonwealth, to bring the said — Green, alias Col. Green, and the said Nancy

## CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS.

1845.  
May 19.  
Norfolk  
Borough.

Alfred and Cuffey Spencer, whose one or some other children of  
Borough, is to examine, touching the premises.

Given under my hand and seal the 11th day of May, 1845.

Wm. E. LANE, J.P.

To any sworn officer to execute.

Subscribed & Examined. Wm. JORDAN, J.P.

Norfolk Borough, to-wit:

The 11th day of May, 1845, was brought before me, one of the  
Justices of the Borough aforesaid, by virtue of the within warrant, the per-  
tinent persons named. At same time appeared as witnesses Wm. King,  
of Portsmouth, and also Alexander Jordan, of Norfolk, who testify  
as follows:

Wm. King, being duly sworn, deposed and said, that on or about  
— day of — the said Col. Green, called at his house in the town  
Portsmouth and asked this deponent to purchase a negro boy.  
deponent answered that he would purchase, if he liked the boy.  
trial. Whereupon the negro boy now present was sent to his  
house, and remained there for some days. In the meantime  
deponent understanding that the boy was brought from another  
and knowing that being so brought he could not be lawfully sold  
declined the purchase of him.

Signed.

WILLIAM K.

The said P. W. Green, being interrogated, said that true it was that  
he had lately brought the said negroes from New York to this place as  
an exhibition of settling and residing in this State. That the boy  
a slave for life. That he was his property, as witnessed by a bill of  
by him then exhibited. That the girl was also his property, but  
she had but — years to serve, and that he never intended to offer to  
her.

Alexander Jordan, being examined, declared that on or about the  
day of — the said Peter Wilkes Green came into his printing office  
enquired for blank bills of sale, and after he had bought one, he  
the said Jordan to be good enough to fill it up for him from a manus-  
writing, which Green then held; that he Jordan did so, and that the  
bill of sale here exhibited, purporting to have been duly executed in the  
of New York, is the same bill of sale which he, the said Jordan,  
up a few days past in his printing office in Norfolk.

LUKE WHEEL

To the Jailor of Norfolk Borough:

You are hereby required to receive into your Jail and custody  
the body of negro boy Cuffey Spencer, and the body of negro girl Ni

who appear to me to be brought from the city and State of New York into this Commonwealth, contrary to certain acts of Assembly, to wit: such cases made and provided; the one of said negroes appearing to be a slave, and the other, to-wit: the said Nanny, appearing to me to be a free person or bonden any for a limited term of years, and which said keep until discharged by due course of law, or which this said warrant.

Given under my hand and seal this 11th day of May, 1805.

LUKE WHEELER.

The Governor having and before the Board a letter from Luke Wheeler, an Alderman for the Borough of Norfolk, in which he states that he had committed to him a negro girl and boy imported into this State by a certain P. W. Green from the State of New York—

It is advised that the Governor do request the said Wheeler to ascertain as early as possible whether the persons aforesaid be slaves or not, and that he communicate the result of his enquiries to the Executive; and it is further advised that the Governor be requested to communicate to the Attorney for the Commonwealth in the Borough of Norfolk the facts now before the Board on this subject, with a request that he will take the necessary steps to recover all forfeitures and penalties from the said Green incurred by law for importing the said negroes into this Commonwealth.

JAMES SHELPS TO ALEXANDER McKAY.

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for the Williamsburg Troop of Cavalry.

May 27,  
Williamsburg

I, Robert H. Waller, Clerk of the counties of York and James City, do certify that by the returns made to my officers by the Commissioners of the counties aforesaid for the year 1804, there were six hundred and six free negroes and mulattoes of all ages in the said counties.

May 27th, 1805.

R. H. WALKER,  
Clerk of York and James City

JOHN MOODY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Reporting work done from March 1st, 1805, to date; soliciting three hundred dollars compensation.

June 1

## THOMAS NEWTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1806.  
June 1,  
Norfolk

Suggesting the appointment of a Quarantine officer for Norfolk and that a resident physician would be a suitable man to fill the office.

## GEO. W. SMITH TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 8

The undersigned begs leave to lay before your Excellency, a return of the Richmond Republican Blues, a volunteer light infantry Company attached to the 19th Regiment of Militia, showing the number of men at present enrolled therein and the number and condition of the Muskets, Bayonets and Cartridge boxes, which have been heretofore drawn for and are at present in the use of the said Company. From the said return it will appear to your Excellency, that the said Company is at this time composed of sixty-eight men including three commissioned officers, eight non-commissioned officers and fifty-seven rank and file. That they have sixty Muskets, sixty Bayonets and sixty Cartridge boxes, and that there are wanting at this time for the use of said Company, five Muskets, five Bayonets and five Cartridge boxes. The undersigned further begs leave to make known to your Excellency, that the two muskets noted on the said return as *bad*, are so noted on account of defects in the barrels existing at the time they were received from the Armory, but not discovered until afterwards—nor discoverable when received, as they are flaws in the barrels which were concealed by a high polish. The ramrod of one other musket is also partly broken, and totally unfit for use, and this also as is apparent has been occasioned by an original flaw, which was not observed at the time it was received.

The above two defective muskets and the bayonet aforesaid, the undersigned presumes to think ought to be returned to the Armory, and thence replaced in his company by others of unexceptionable quality.

He further begs leave to represent to your Excellency, that he has well founded expectations of enrolling from ten to fifteen more rank and file at his next muster, and believes that his company will require from ten to fifteen more muskets, &c., and for which he prays leave to draw.

## THOS. GHOLSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 10,  
Brunswick

Solicits arms for his company and sends a wagon for them.

## H. J. GAMRILL TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 13,  
Harrison-  
burg

Some time last summer, I communicated to the Executive the situation of a tract of land in the County of Rockingham which Thomas



Jackson died seized and possessed of without heirs. The Executive then directed me to employ James Allen, Esq'r, to attend the Jury of Inquest to aid the Attorney, which I did, but the Jury did not agree. I can only add that the land remains in the same situation as at that time, and is supposed to be very valuable. You will therefore be pleased to communicate to me the advice of council whether I am again to employ Mr. Allen or any other Gentleman to aid on an Inquest shortly to be held on the said land, for it is doubtless escheatable.

1805.  
June 13,  
Harrison-  
burg

I am, &c.

#### H. DEARBORN, SECRETARY OF WAR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Marshall of the District of Virginia, by instructions from the Department of State, being directed to obtain your approbation before he makes application for an armed force agreeably to the provisions of the Act of Congress "for the more effectual preservation of peace in the ports and harbors of the United States and in the waters under their jurisdiction," and your Excellency by a letter from the same Department being requested to render him your aid whenever in your opinion the employment of a military force is requisite, I am directed by the President of the United States to desire you in such cases to employ such of the militia in the State of Virginia as you may deem necessary, in addition to the regular troops, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of said act.

June 18,  
War  
Department

Directions have been given from this Department to the commanding officer of the regular troops at Fort Nelson, to render such aid as your Excellency may require, and pursue such measures as the officer executing the process may direct in pursuance of the provisions of said act.

I have the honor to be, &c.

[A printed copy of instructions to the Marshall of the District of Virginia, dated May 29th, 1805, enclosed in the letter of Secretary of War.—Ed.]

#### Norfolk Borough:

At a quarterly session court continued and held the twenty-sixth day of June, 1805, the Court recommended to his Excellency the Gov'r and Council, Col. John Nivison, as a fit person to be commissioned Recorder for this Borough in the room of Thomas Newton, Esq'r, resigned.

Copy—Teste:

WM. SHARP, C. N. B. C.

MIDDLESEX COURT, *June 28th, 1805.*

1805. Wm. George Vidal, merchant, who hath immigrated from Holland, this day came into Court and presented a petition in the words following, to-wit: "To the worshipful court," &c.; also an affidavit of Josiah B. Grindall in the following words: "I, Josiah B. Grindall," &c.; and it appearing by the petition and affidavit before recited, that he, the said Wm. Geo. Vidall, hath resided within the United States of America for upwards of eight years, and within this State upwards of three years, and having in open court taken the oath prescribed by an act of Congress passed the 14th day of April, 1802, and entitled an act to establish an uniform mode of naturalization, and to repeal the acts heretofore passed on that subject, whereupon he is admitted to the rights of a citizen of the United States.

Copy—Teste:

O. COSBY, C. M. C.

JOHN D. WATKINS TO THE GOVERNOR.

- June 28 Soliciting arms and accoutrements for the Cavalry Troop of New Kent and Charles City.

PENITENTIARY, *29th June, 1805.*

I have this day inspected fifty pair of Holsters and fifty Sword Belts made at the Penitentiary, and find them equal in every respect to the sample.

THO. UNDERWOOD.

J. SAUNDERS, CAPTAIN U. S. ARTILLERY, TO THE GOVERNOR.

- June 30, Fort Nelson Your letter, with its enclosure and one from the Honorable Secretary of War, I received by mail yesterday. In compliance with which I have the honor to transmit for your Excellency's information, a \*Return of Ordnance, exhibiting an accurate account of every article annexed to that Department, together with a \*Monthly Return of the Troops placed under my command. By the former Return, you will discover that the Post is deficient in the description of Artillery, &c., alluded to in your Excellency's letter, and by the latter you will find that our Garrison is small, but it is young, healthy, and ready to obey any order its Government may think proper to give.

I am, &c.

\*Return of Ordnance and Monthly Return of Artillery both lodged.—ED.

W. B. ROBERTSON, B. W. LEIGH, AND JOHN SNOW TO THE GOVERNOR.

The undersigned respectfully represent:

That a company of the citizens of Petersburg, to the number of 56, have formed themselves into a volunteer company under the appellation of "The Petersburg Republican Light Infantry." They have chosen the undersigned as proper persons to be the officers of the company, who have also been recommended by the Hustings Court of the town, and they have desired the undersigned to ask of the Executive, in their behalf, that they may be furnished with arms and accoutrements from the public Arsenal.

The undersigned therefore, in behalf of "The Petersburg Republican Light Infantry," respectfully solicit the Executive, that arms and accoutrements may be furnished to the company from the public Arsenal, in such number, in such manner, and under such conditions as the Executive may deem proper.

We are, &c.

1865.  
July 3,  
Petersburg

JOHN FITZGERALD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for the company of Cavalry raised in Nottoway county.

July 20,  
Nottoway

*Instructions for Arming the Cavalry as Received by the Executive, to-wit:*

65 Swords and 65 Pistols for Capt. Geo. W. Boothe's Troop in the 4th Regiment of Cavalry, in Gloucester.

July 20

59 Swords and 59 Pistols for Capt. Richard C. Claiborne's Troop in the 1st Regiment of Cavalry, near Petersburg.

71 Swords and 71 Pistols for Capt. Augustin J. Smith's Troop in the 2nd Reg't of Cavalry, in Fairfax.

85 Swords and 85 Pistols for Capt. James Riddick's Troop in the 4th Reg't of Cavalry, in Nansemond.

For Capt. Mordecai Boothe's Troop in the — Reg't of Cavalry, in Brunswick.

For Capt. Vincent Brannom's Troop in the — Reg't of Cavalry, in Richmond Co.

For Capt. — Muse's Troop in the — Reg't of Cavalry, in Middlesex Co.

67 Swords and 67 Pistols for Capt. Archer Richie's Troop in the 4th Reg't Cavalry, in Essex.

80 Swords and 80 Pistols for Capt. Wm. Irvin's Troop in the 1st Reg't of Cavalry, in Bedford.

1805. 46 Swords and 46 Pistols for Capt. Harry Heth's Troop in the 1st  
July 20 Reg't of Cavalry, in Chesterfield.

42 Swords and 42 Pistols for Capt. B. Stanard's Troop in the 1st Reg't  
of Cavalry, in Chesterfield.

60 Swords and 60 Pistols for Capt. Archibald Randolph's Troop in the  
2nd Reg't of Cavalry, in Goochland.

For Capt. Stapleton Crutchfield's Troop in the — Reg't of Cavalry, in  
Fredericksburg.

For Capt. John Temple's Troop in the — Reg't of Cavalry, in King &  
Queen.

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#### A. RUSSELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 1 Soliciting arms and accoutrements for the Troop of Cavalry attached  
to the 57th Regiment.

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#### JOHN FITZGERALD TO ALEXANDER McRAE.

August 5, Soliciting arms and accoutrements for his Troop of Cavalry raised in  
Nottoway Nottoway.

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#### E. MASON TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 17, Soliciting arms for the 45th Reg't, which has as yet received none.  
Stafford

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Printers' proposals for printing Laws of Congress:

John Courtney, 1,500 copies, \$280, without Index.

Thos. Nicholson, Do. including paper and table of contents,  
\$271 83.

Sam'l Pleasants, Do. \$370.

Aug. Davis, Do. \$20 per sheet.

Cook & Grantland, Do. \$240.

T. Ritchie, Do. \$280.

Aug. 24th, 1805.

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#### JOHN S. PLEASANTS (CAPTAIN) AND JOSHUA WEST (LIEUTENANT) TO THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

August 24 Soliciting arms for a Light Infantry Company.

MARTIN MIMS (KEEPER) TO THE GOVERNOR.

I deem it my duty to submit the following statements to the Executive:

1865.  
August 24.  
Penitentiary

But six men are sent to guard this place, and frequently a part of them are boys not able to render essential service, and they are commanded by non-commissioned officers. But two centinels are kept on duty, and they cannot afford security either in the day or night.

There are a hundred men confined. Should they attempt to escape by force, success would be very probable, and I have good reason to believe that this plan is intended at the present time.

I have informed Col. Quarrier that his Guard at this place is too weak, and he has said that he cannot send me more men. These statements are caused by a sense of duty.

I am, &c.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for Capt. Stanard's Rifle Company of Spotsylvania.

August 24.  
Man'y  
Arms

A return of Capt. Larkin Stanard's Republican Company of Riflemen, 2nd Batt., 16th Reg't, 1st Brigade:

1 Captain, 1 Lieut., 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 81 Privates. Total, 91. Rifles, 2; Bayonets, 1; Drums, 1; Fifes, 1.

Countersigned:

HUGH MERCER, Lt.-Col. Com't.  
JOHN CHEVIS, Adj't.

PETITION OF WM. AYLETT AND OTHERS.

The Petition of Wm. Aylett, Wm. Quarles and Rich'd M. Segar, officers commanding a company of Light Infantry of the 2nd Battalion of the 87th Regiment in the 14th Brigade and 4th Division of Militia, respectfully represents:

Sept. 7,  
King  
William

That they have lately received orders from the Lieut-Colonel Commandant of the 87th Regiment, requiring them to have their company in complete readiness to take the field on one hour's notice. That by the return of their company hereto annexed, and to which they beg leave to refer your honors, it will be seen how entirely destitute they are of arms and other necessary Military apparatus. They beg leave here to repre-

1805.  
Sept. 7,  
King  
William

sent that they take a pleasure and feel a pride in rendering the Militia so far as their influence may extend, both efficient and respectable; but they fear that they will be unable to effect this in the manner desired without the aid of Government. They further state that the men composing their company though strong and active, are most of them young men in rather indigent circumstances, and are unable to procure for themselves the necessary uniform, caps and coats. They find under the 14th Sec'n of the Militia Law, passed in January, 1804, that the uniform for the Light Infantry, &c., is to be purchased out of the money arising on delinquents, and as your honors have the power, they flatter themselves you will feel a pleasure in lending your aid in equipping them in a manner becoming the importance and dignity of the Militia of Virginia. We ask nothing for ourselves, having already procured our necessary uniform, &c., but we respectfully request that your Honors will with all convenient speed, transmit to us at Aylett's warehouse in the county of King William, all necessary arms for our company, including side arms for the non-commissioned officers, and also caps and uniform coats for the non-commissioned officers and soldiers.

This being done, we shall at all times be ready to take the field in defence of our country or upon any other proper occasion at a moment's notice.

Signed,

WM. AYLETT,  
WM. QUARLES,  
RICHARD M. SEGAR.

King William, Sep. 7th, 1805.

A Return of Capt. Aylett's Company of Light Infantry, in the 2nd Battalion and 87th Regiment of Militia: 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 46 Rank and File—57 total. No Drum. No Fife. No Muskets. No Bayonets. No Cart-ridge Boxes. No Swords.

WM. AYLETT.

A Return of the Strength of the Public Guard, Sept. 7th, 1805: Present and fit for duty—1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 4 Music, 40 Privates. Sick in Hospital, 11. Sick on Furlough, 2. Deserted, 4. Total strength, 68.

ALEX'R QUARRIER, Capt. P. G.

JOHN SINTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 9,  
Dumfries

The death of Col. Thomas Lee, late collector for the Commonwealth on Bristoe's tract, has left a vacancy in that office, which I take the earliest opportunity of announcing my wish to obtain.

I shall take the liberty of transmitting a proper recommendation to satisfy the Executive that their confidence will not be misplaced should they feel disposed to appoint me.

1905.  
Sept. 9.  
Dumfries

I am, &c.

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MILES KING TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting the appointment of Superintendent of Quarantine for Norfolk. Recommending Col. Worlick Westwood for Superintendent of Quarantine for Hampton.

Sept. 17.  
Norfolk

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A Proclamation for Quarantine, dated Sept. 21st. 1905, in the different ports of entry and delivery of the Commonwealth, on account of an infectious malignant disease existing in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, and the West India Islands, by the Lieutenant-Governor, John Guerrant, Jr., is lodged.

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J. ROBINSON TO DANIEL L. HYLTON.

Soliciting appointment as collector of rents of the Bristoe Estate.

Sept. 21.  
Richmond

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BOLLING BRANCH TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Soliciting arms for his Troop of Cavalry, 1st Regiment and 1st Division.

Sept. 23

---

ROBERT ANDERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting good and serviceable arms for the Williamsburg Militia.

Sept. 24.  
Williams-  
burg

---

PETTON SMITH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting appointment as Superintendent of Quarantine at York Town.

Sept. 28.  
Yorktown

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JOHN WILLIAMS, ROB. GRAHAM, TIMOTHY BRUNDIDGE, AND OTHERS  
TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending James Wigginton as collector of rents on the Bristoe Estate.

Sept. 30

COUNCIL CHAMBER, *Sept. 30th, 1805.*

1805. It is advised that Alex'r McRae and Wm. Foushee, Esq., be appointed to count the money in the Treasury and make a report thereon.

DAN'L L. HYLTON, Clerk of Council.

Extract from the minutes.

Oct. 1, Treasury The Treasurer being enjoined to close the accounts of his office on the 30th day of September annually, we, the underwritten, thereto appointed by the Executive (as appears by the foregoing copy of their order), repaired to the Treasury on the morning of the first of October in order to ascertain the amount of money and other facilities in the treasury received on public account and constituting the balance due therefrom on the 30th day of September, 1805.

Upon examination we find the balance actually on hand to be one hundred and twenty-eight thousand seven hundred Dollars and forty cents, which has been deposited by the Treasurer in the bank of Virginia.

AL. McRAE,  
W. FOUSHEE.

JOHN CROPPER, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 1, Accomac Your Excellency's letter of the 9th of August came to my hands by the mail the 22nd of that month.

Agreeable to your instructions, I ordered the Light Infantry company to parade immediately—to-wit, on the 24th of August. Every officer and soldier of the company appeared at the time and place appointed, except two privates, who were absent on business at the time notices were given. I ordered the officers to examine the arms and accoutrements under my own inspection, and gave orders for the company to be ready to march at an hour's warning.

Thinking it my duty to prepare for service the rest of the Regiment under my command, I ordered the remaining companies, including the Troop of horse, to meet the 7th of September, when I had them examined and put in the best possible condition for action, and also gave orders that the whole Regiment should hold themselves ready to march in whole or part, as they might be called for.

On this occasion I have the satisfaction to inform you that the officers and men showed me a pleasing example of their energy and patriotism; but I have to lament that we are still deficient of arms. The first we received from the Executive were generally unfit for service, and, indeed, good for nothing. The last, tho' good, were not enough in number.

I am, &c.



P. S.—I cannot account for no commissions coming from the Executive to the 2nd Reg't for a considerable time past, tho' several recommendations have been made by the Court for that Reg't, and it is deprived of the services of meritorious men who don't choose to act barely on the recommendation of the court.

1805.  
Oct. 1,  
Accomac

J. C.

HENRY ST. JOHN DIXON TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Soliciting arms for Troop of Cavalry commanded by Capt. Jacob Baker attached to the 105th Regiment.

Oct. 4,  
Abingdon

JAMES SEMPLE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting pistols made at the Virginia Manufactory for the troop of Cavalry at Williamsburg.

Oct. 6,  
Williams-  
burg

The bond of Hancock Eustace as agent for the Commonwealth, for the collection of the rents on the Bristoe Estate, in the penalty of five thousand dollars, dated the 30th of September, 1805, is lodged.

CLIFTON GARLAND TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

In consequence of your advertisement in the Virginia Argus of the 10th ult'o, am induced to transmit the annexed return; whether I am entitled to claim under this advertisement or on what grounds are to be supported, are alike to me unknown. If seniority is entitled to preference, believe the Troop I command would stand in the first class.

Oct. 7,  
Albemarle

I am, &c.

Strength of the Albemarle Troop of Cavalry attached to the 47th Reg't of Militia, viz:

Commissioned Officers,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Non-Commissioned do.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Privates,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
Total,									59

CLIFTON GARLAND, C. A. T. C.

DANIEL WEISIGER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Capt. Smith having informed me of his resignation, I here inclose you a list of the company formerly commanded by him, out of which you

Oct. 17,  
Chesterfield

1805.  
Oct. 17,  
Chesterfield

will please fill the vacancy. The Sergeants, as elected by the company, are: Messrs. John Perry, Samuel Wooddy, and James Winfree. I have also to request you to take into your consideration, the arming of our company, as the greater part are now in uniform, and without arms appear almost useless. Believing that you will at least furnish us with small arms, if artillery cannot be had,

I am, &c.

In addition to the above, I beg leave to state that this is one among the first companies of artillery raised in the State; that its local situation promises immediate benefits in case of emergency, and that I heartily concur in the desire of officers to be furnished with arms.

SAMUEL COLEMAN.

---

PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 30,  
Richmond

There is now depending in the Court of Appeals a cause of great importance to the State. The suit is brought by Robert Bristoe to recover a tract of land in Prince William which is now in possession of the public. The value of the land itself, I am told, is many thousand pounds, besides a large claim for profits. In a case of such magnitude, I think the public interest would be promoted by employing assistant counsel. I am induced to make this suggestion because it has been the practice of the Government in cases of great importance, and because, too, although I am sanguine in my expectation of a result favorable to the State, yet the co-operation of talents which the Commonwealth may be availed of, cannot but be beneficial.

I am, &c.

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E. LANGHAM TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 30,  
Chillicothe

Congress having passed a law limiting the time for locating the military lands between the Scioto and Little Miami rivers, and for establishing the line run by Israel Ludlow, Esq., between the lands of the United States and the Virginia army lands, which law requires the sanction of the Virginia Assembly previous to its taking effect, will you permit me on behalf of the Virginia military claimants to state to you as follows, to-wit:

First—Great injury will be done to the claimants if the time for locating is limited to so short a period, because there are many warrants and parts of warrants yet in the Surveyor's office unsatisfied, and I presume many to issue.

## DECLARATION OF STATE PAPERS

Secondly—The Hon. Mr. Justice is thought to be in the military very considerably. It seems that his appointment is a establishment until the next session appointed by Congress and the Virginia Assembly or Executive. I would not wish the State of Virginia to have because there are made in the military office and the line where this you would be obliged to render satisfaction to all parties.

I should be willing to run the line of the State of Virginia but I am not approved of would recommend William Beeson, John Beeson or General P. Vance as gentlemen who might be relied upon as well men and good surveyors. If you think proper to submit any part of these choices done with your own remarks on the subject to the Virginia Assembly, you will I think render service to the claimants of Virginia military lands.

I am, &c.

The death of the Hon. Joseph Jones having been this day announced to the Executive they proceeded in obedience to a resolution to that effect contained in the Constitution to fill the vacancy in the judiciary occasioned by that melancholy event.

Whereupon on the motion of Mr. McRae, seconded by Mr. Stuart, it was unanimously advised that Creed Taylor, Esquire, be appointed a Judge of the General Court to fill the vacancy aforesaid.

## CREED TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have been duly honored with yours of the 2nd instant, notifying me of my appointment to a seat on the bench of the General Court. This was not expected by me. But I deem it the duty of every good member of society to obey the call of his country and to discharge to the best of his ability the duties assigned to him. Under this impression, then, I shall, duly regarding the great responsibility attached to the office to which I am called, repair without delay to the seat of government, to give my attendance upon the General Court on Saturday next.

I am, &c.

## JAMES TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

In conformity to the Proclamation issued by the Lieutenant-Governor 21st of Sept. last, I have attended to the duty as Superintendent of Quarantine, and as there was no danger of any infectious disease at this season, I thought it necessary to withdraw the Publication. Inclosed you have

1805.  
Nov. 15,  
Norfolk

a list of all the vessels that have arrived from any suspected Port, with the printers acc't. &c. I had directed the Commandant of the Fort to stop all vessels from the said Ports, and employed a Doctor to visit them and make report to me of the Health of the crew, &c. Certificates have been granted to each before they were admitted to an entry at the Custom House.

I have the satisfaction to inform you that there has not occurred one instance in which it was necessary to perform Quarantine. You will make what compensation you think proper for the services.

I am, &c.

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P. GRYMES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 20,  
Warwick

Resigning his seat as a member of the Council of State on account of feeble health.

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THOS. UNDERWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 21,  
Richmond

Enclosing an account of Price & Underwood for work done by them on the yard of the Public Warehouse at Richmond, amounting to \$53 25, suspended for Major Clarke's approval.

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I do certify that Joseph Horton has, agreeably to contract with me, completed his precinct of the road to be opened and improved under the act of Assembly entitled "an act to amend and carry into effect the several acts providing for the opening a road from the upper navigation of James River to the upper navigation of Kanawha River," and that the last half of the am't of the sum contracted for is now due him, being two hundred and twenty-five dollars.

Given under my hand this 22d of November, 1805.

DAVID RUFFNER.

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ROBERT CHEW TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 25,  
Spotsylvania

I am directed by the Court of Spotsylvania Co. to transmit to the Executive for their satisfaction, a statement of the Commission of the peace in this county, and also the particular situation of Joseph Pollard, one of the magistrates, who, it appears, is contractor for carrying the mail; that his son, who is a minor, is commissioned as postmaster, but that the business is entirely done by the said Pollard. The court wish the Executive to advise them whether the said Pollard can act as a magistrate under those circumstances.

The number of acting magistrates are 11, including the said Pollard, and exclusive of the High Sheriff and one of the Deputy Sheriffs. Edward G. Hill, who has been commissioned, refuses to qualify.

1865  
Nov. 25.  
Spotsylvania.

I am, &c.

EDWARD G. HILL TO THE GOVERNOR.

I beg leave to represent that the arms heretofore allotted for the 37th Regiment, have not been delivered according to the various orders of Council on that subject.

Nov. 25.  
Richmond

In addition to the arms already ordered, I take the liberty to suggest to your Excellency the propriety of arming the Troop of Cavalry to which I belong, commanded by Capt. Wm Hall. The exposed situation of that part of the Northern Neck in which I reside, will, I trust, command your utmost discretion, given by various acts of the Legislature, to arm us as completely as possible.

I am, &c.

The Commonwealth of Virginia.

To THOMAS WILCOX.

IN.

To the hire of a deck vessel, navigated by three men, for the purpose of a Quarantine boat, from 20th of September until the 30th of November, 46 days, at \$4 per day, - - - - - \$224 00  
To my services, 46 days, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

CHARLES CARTER TO THE GOVERNOR.

LEE COUNTY, November Court, 1865.

Whereas it becomes the duty of the Court by the 5th section of the act entitled an act making provision for improving and keeping in repair the road from Mockasin Gap to Powell's Valley, in the county of Lee, passed January 14th, 1865, annually to transmit to the Executive an account of the proceedings under the above recited act, to be laid before the General Assembly. On this occasion the Court has to state that the said recited act has been carried into effect in its various provisions with all the care and attention the Court was able to bestow. At the last May Court a superintendent of the said road was appointed, who entered into bond, with two securities, in the sum of two thousand dollars, agreeable to the second section of said act. The superintendent has been allowed ninety-nine cents per day while employed in the public service, and

November,  
Lee County

1805. laborers have been employed at 3s. 9d. per day and find themselves, or  
 November, 2s. 6d. per day if found. The first appropriated two hundred dollars  
 Lee County have been expended, which has nearly completed the repairs intended  
 on Powell's Mountain. The Court flatter themselves that the Executive  
 will be of opinion that they have been governed in the prosecution of  
 this business by the strictest economy, and that they can give assurances  
 that the benefits already resulting to this county from the repairs which  
 have been made, are greater than they could have supposed.

By order of the Court.

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Nov. 30 I have this day inspected one hundred pair large Holsters for the  
 Armory Pistols, sixty pair straps to confine the Holsters, one hundred  
 and twenty Cartridge Boxes for the Cavalry, and one hundred Sword  
 Belts, and find them made out of good materials and in a workmanlike  
 manner.

THO. UNDERWOOD.

Penitentiary, 30th November, 1805.

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#### JOHN MINOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 30, I enclose you a return of Capt. Robert Lewis' company in the Second  
 Fredericks- Regiment of Artillery. You will observe that the company is still more  
 burg full than it was at the last Return. If good arms are put into their  
 hands, I trust they may soon be put into a situation to be useful if occa-  
 sion should require.

If the Executive send out these arms, they will be pleased to send  
 them to Berk's old tavern, in the county of Caroline, about a mile below  
 Berk's bridge, where they will be received by the Captain. You will  
 observe that there are two Lieutenants wanting in the company. I shall  
 recommend proper persons to the Executive to fill these vacancies as  
 soon as I can find who will be most agreeable to the company.

I am, &c.

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Dec. 6 The bond of Sam'l Pleasants as Public Printer for one year, dated  
 Dec. 6th, 1805, in the penalty of five thousand dollars, is lodged.

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Dec. 7 Wm. H. Cabell elected Governor.

Henrico County, &c.:

I do hereby certify that I have administered the oaths prescribed by Law to be taken by the Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, unto William H. Cabell, Esq., who hath been duly elected to that office.

1805.  
Dec. 9

Given under my hand this 11th day of December, 1805.

DANIEL L. HYLTON.

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THEO. HANSFORD TO THE GOVERNOR.

On the 14th day of December, 1798, I was appointed by the Executive Notary public for the District of King George and Caroline counties. No case having been before me in that office for two years past, I have considered it unnecessary to hold it any longer. You will please therefore accept my resignation of it.

Dec. 9

I am, &c.

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THOS. JEFFERSON, PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES, TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your letter of the 22nd of November should have been sooner answered had I had an earlier moment at which I could have done it, but its object has not been delayed. I put it immediately into the hands of General Dearborne, who promised to save you all further ceremony or trouble by ordering the fugitive, if at Fort McHenry, to be sent down in irons and delivered to the civil authority at Norfolk. I hope this has accordingly been done or is doing.

Dec. 9,  
Washington

Present my affectionate respects to Mrs. Page, in which Mrs. Randolph, now here, cordially joins, and be assured of my constant friendship and respect.

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WILL NORVELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

The commanding officer of one Reg't in Bedford has drawn an order on me for the expense of carrying arms from Liberty to the different Captains in the Reg't or Battalion. Though the sum is small, I have no instructions from the Executive to pay any expense except the carriage of arms to the respective Colo. Commandants in this neighborhood. I shall wait for your instructions before I pay the above order.

Dec. 12,  
Lynchburg

I am, &c.

## JAMES TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

1805.  
Dec. 13,  
Norfolk

A few days ago I was honored by a letter from the late Governor John Page, Esq'r, informing me that the Council had allowed one hundred and twenty-five dollars as Superintendent of Quarantine at this port, which is perfectly satisfactory. I am also requested to state what may be a reasonable allowance to such persons as have been necessarily employed in the execution of that business.

I found it necessary to employ a Physician to visit the different vessels that arrived. He visited about twenty below the Fort, and some in the harbour, and was at some small expense for Boat hire. I have consulted with Col. Newton, who has been in that office, and am told about 50 or 60 Dollars is the sum he allowed to the visiting Doctor on like occasions. If this is thought reasonable, the Council will issue a warrant to Doctor Lewis Hansford, or for as much as they think right. Also to James O'Conner for printing the Proclamation, \$7 50 as per his bill before sent.

I am, &c.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS OF THE DISMAL SWAMP  
CANAL COMPANY.

The President and Directors of the Dismal Swamp Canal Company have the honor to represent to your Excellency the present situation of the Canal.

During this year a Junction has been effected betwixt the waters of Elizabeth River in Virginia and those of Pasquetank River in North Carolina. The canal is cut its full width and depth quite through, (except about four miles which is only cut half its width and its full depth) and to deepen about four miles on the part cut by George Capron on contract some years ago. It is now so far navigable as to admit Shingle Flats to pass the whole distance from River to River. The road on the west bank is very good from end to end, and shortens the distance greatly from Norfolk to the lower counties in North Carolina, and to Edenton 25 miles and no doubt it will become the public Stageway to the Southward.

The Stockholders at their Annual Meeting last May, in order to carry on the work this year, passed a resolution empowering the President and Directors for the time being, to borrow a sum of money not exceeding eight thousand dollars, and to pledge the revenue of the Canal for its repayment from the Tolls arising after the 1st of January, 1806. In virtue of the said resolution, the Directors have obtained the loan of three thousand dollars upon interest, from which and the tolls collected, they have been enabled to pursue the work during the summer and fall to



considerable advantage, and to show how soon this valuable work may be completed if proper encouragement is given. 1805.

There now remains to be done the cutting of the above four miles, half its width and deepening four miles on Capron's contract, which the Directors calculate may take till next September, unless a larger force is employed than has been the last two or three years. A lock is to be built at each end of the Canal, the cutting a ten or twelve foot canal from Drummond's pond the distance of about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles, to supply the canal with water in dry seasons, and some work to be done at the North west run is all that now remains to be done, for the accomplishment of which time and funds are wanted, and the Directors are of opinion as much as twenty thousand dollars will be required to complete the whole and to repay three thousand they have borrowed, as also about fifteen hundred loaned by the stockholders in the vicinity of this place; for the obtaining this sum the Directors are of opinion it will be most advisable to recommend to the Stockholders at their next annual meeting in May, to open a new subscription for the sale of one hundred shares, and they beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the propriety of recommending to the Legislature to pass a resolve for the purchase of thirty additional shares for the State, making the number then held by it one hundred. The public setting this example, no doubt but individuals will readily subscribe for the remainder, by which means a sufficiency of money would be raised to complete the works in a short time, and to admit dividends of the profits being made the ensuing year, which would be much more desirable to the Stockholders than continuing to borrow money to carry on the work slowly with what Tolls could be collected.

The Directors beg leave to remind your Excellency that the time prescribed by law for completing the canal, its locks and cutting a race into Drummond's pond, expires on the 19th of September next, which cannot be accomplished in that time unless there was a much larger force employed than heretofore; they therefore beg your Excellency to lay before the Legislature a remonstrance to extend the Law five years longer from the 19th of September next, and allow the same Tolls to be collected as now, are under the act of Assembly passed the 16th of December, 1800.

The President and Directors have made a similar application to the Legislature of North Carolina now in session, and solicit your Excellency to write to the Governor of that State to use his influence to get a similar law passed there.

With due respect, &c.

RICH'D BLOW, Prest.  
FORT. WHITTLE,  
THEO. ARMISTEAD,  
WILLIAM CAMMACK.  
Directors.

1805. Resolved unanimously, That in consideration of the gallant services of Lieut. Presley N. O'Bannon, a citizen of Virginia, in the late war between the United States and Tripoli, the Executive be requested to present to the said Lieut. O'Bannon, a handsome sword with such appropriate devices thereon as they may think proper.

December 26th, 1805.

December the 30th, 1805.—Agreed to by the House of Delegates.

J. PLEASANTS, C. H. D.

Agreed to by the Senate unanimously.

THEO. HANSFORD, C. S.

A true copy from the original in the office of the House of Delegates.

J. PLEASANTS, JR., C. H. D.

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#### EDMUND RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 30,  
Richmond

I had the honor of receiving your Excellency's letter to the Attorney-General, inclosed in that addressed to myself. With great cheerfulness, I examined the case, and if an immediate step could be taken, I should certainly have pursued it.

None of the laws giving summary remedies to the Commonwealth, apply to the unwarrantable behaviour of Potter. An action is the only mode of redress; and the conduct of Captain Clarke has prepared for it by tendering a just amount of freight. I would this evening order a writ, but Mr. Nicholas will be here to-morrow and Potter is now on the point of departing.

If however he should attempt to sell the stocks, Capt. Clarke may as well have them bought in by some person acting, as for himself.

I am, &c.

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#### JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 31,  
Va. Man'f'y  
Arms

I have this moment received your letter of the 30th inst. and in reply beg leave to state that if Capt. Potter should attempt to make sale of the Gun stocks unwarrantably detained by him, I will endeavor to carry Mr. Randolph's advice into effect in getting them bought in.

I am much hurried at this time in completing my annual report of the operations of the Manufactory of Arms, but will in a few days report the amounts necessary for completing the said Manufactory and the canal Warehouse agreeably to your desire.

I am, &c.

Buckingham County, to-wit:

David Patterson, Price Perkins and Anthony Dibrell, Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid, hereby certify to the Governor and Council, that Anne Shepherd (daughter of Wm. Shepherd, dece'd,) who hath heretofore been allowed a pension of sixty dollars, is still living; that she is insane and in every respect perfectly helpless, and that an additional allowance of Twenty dollars in our opinion would be but reasonable. 1805.

Given under our hands this 23rd of Sep'r, 1805.

DAVID PATTERSON,  
PRICE PERKINS,  
ANTHONY DIBRELL.

Buckingham December Court:

On motion of Anna Shepherd the within certificate was ordered to be certified to the Governor of this State.

A Copy:

R. ELDRIGE, JR., D. C.

THO. MILLER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Requesting, under resolution of House of Delegates, to be informed of the sums necessary towards the building of the Manufactory of Arms, the Penitentiary, and of the James River Warehouse. 1806.  
Jan. 1,  
Richmond

PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of a suit instituted by him on the Governor's order against Capt. Potter for illegal detention of gun stocks purchased by the State. Jan. 2,  
Richmond

Henrico County, &c.:

I do hereby certify that William Waller Henning this day took the oaths of a Privy Councillor before me, a Justice of the Peace for the said county, agreeable to law.

Given under my hand this 2nd day of January, 1806.

DANIEL HYLTON.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your letter of the 1st inst., stating that you had received from Mr. Miller, chairman of the Committee of Finance, a letter requesting to be Jan. 4

1806.  
Jan. 4

informed "whether any, and if any, what sums are necessary, to be appropriated towards the buildings for the Manufactory of Arms, the building of the Penitentiary, of the James River Warehouse, and of other Public Warehouses," I have received, and in compliance therewith have made estimates of the expenses that will probably be incurred in the completion of those buildings.

In relation to the buildings of the Manufactory of Arms, I have to state that a considerable portion of the sum last appropriated for their completion, has been applied to the introduction of water among the buildings from the James River Canal, by means of culverts built of brick, which convey the water under ground. This measure was deemed indispensably necessary for the security of the works against the effects of accidental fires. Stone pavements have likewise been made, and the very great demand for arms for Cavalry and for Rifle Companies made it necessary to apply a part of said appropriation to additional internal buildings of wood and of cast and wrought iron, with various apparatus for the manufacture of Swords, Pistols, and Rifles. From the most accurate estimate I can now make, about fourteen thousand dollars will be required to complete this institution.

Respecting the Penitentiary, I beg leave to state that an unexpended balance of the appropriation last made by the Legislature for the completion of said buildings, amounting to one thousand five hundred and seventy-seven dollars and thirty-one cents, is deemed sufficient for the discharge of debts due for work executed, and for the little which yet remains to be done for its entire completion.

And for the discharge of debts due for work done on the James River Canal Warehouse about seven hundred and fifty dollars will be required.

I have no knowledge of any facts relative to the "other public warehouses" above alluded to.

I am, &c.

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The official bond of William Moseley as Treasurer of the Commonwealth for one year from the time of appointment, and dated January 1st, 1806, in the penalty of one million of dollars, is lodged.

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#### ANDREW ANDERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 6,  
Richmond

The detached corps of the 32nd Regiment of Augusta Militia consists of an Infantry Company, Rifle Company, and a Company of Cavalry, the two latter being only armed in part. Sir, if it be consistent with the laws of the State, I would be glad if you would cause them to be armed as soon as convenient, as I think it is necessary those corps should be armed in the first place as they serve in entire companies.

Two-thirds of the Rifle Company has good rifles of their own. Then about twenty stands of arms would arm them complete. I cannot say precisely what number of arms the cavalry wants, but I believe there is not the third part of them armed.

1806.  
Jan. 6.  
Richmond

I am, &c.

SAM'L SHEPARD AND SAM'L COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

In pursuance of an advice of Council of the 3rd instant, we the subscribers to whom it was refered to report to the Executive the amount of expenditures for the public Guard, from the 1st of Oct. 1805. to the 1st of Oct. 1806, and from the latter period to the 1st of Jan'y, 1807; and further, whether in our opinion those expenditures have in any instance exceeded the expenses of the same number of troops of the United States in Garrison, beg leave to submit the following:

Jan. 7,  
Richmond

It appears from the books of the Auditor's Office, that the expense of the Guard from the 1st of Oct. 1805. to the 1st of Oct. 1806, including two thousand dollars advanced to the contractor for rations, amount to \$18,666 70; and from the 1st of Oct. 1806. to the 1st of Jan'y, 1807, they amount to \$5,243 91. of which last amount much was expended for clothing for year ending Oct. 1807.

As to any opinion with respect to the difference of expence incurred by the Public Guard, compared with a like number of troops of the United States in Garrison, we feel it impracticable from want of information to form a correct one. Upon examination of the laws of congress, we find the Military peace establishment of the U. S. to be 3,290, and the appropriation for its support, 698,760 dollars or \$212 p'r man. If the expenditures of the Guards for the same time, amount to \$18,000. the expence p'r man will be \$253; if to \$16,000, the expence will be \$225 p'r man. We beg leave to represent further that the pay of the troops of the U. S. differ. The privates of the Public Guard receive six dollars p'r month; those of the U. S. receive five. The ensign of the Pub. Guard receives \$26 p'r month, the ensign of the U. S. \$20.

With regard to clothing, it is asserted that no soldier has received more than is allowed by the U. S. Gov't, but that the expense for it has always exceeded the sum estimated for it by reason of deaths, desertion and other causes.

In addition to the ordinary ration, military usage authorizes the furnishing of fuel, straw and other necessities as quarter-master and Hospital stores. The allowance of wood is one cord per month to each commissioned officer, from Oct. 1st to April 1st, the same quantity to eight non-commissioned officers and privates. The guard rooms are also furnished with wood and candles.

We are, &c.

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 THOMAS UNDERWOOD, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

1806. Suggesting the flooring of the upper story of the Public Warehouse by  
 Jan. 10, the State, for storing flour, and providing a hoisting apparatus for the  
 Public Warehouse same.

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## SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 13, In pursuance of your instructions I have the honor to report to the  
 Richmond Executive that the subaltern officers belonging to the Company of Artillery lately commanded by Major Singleton, are Lewis Wolfe, Jr., First Lieutenant, and James Chipley, Second Lieutenant. I also have to report as instructed, that the four senior Captains in the 2nd Regiment of Cavalry are as follows: George Kemper, of Fauquier, commissioned 1st of May, 1799; Zephaniah Turner, of Culpeper, commissioned the 13th of May, 1799; Charles Quarles, of Louisa, commissioned the 15th of June, 1799; and Thomas Hunton, of Fauquier, commissioned the 13th of August, 1799. The Brigade Inspector of the Fifth Brigade returns the total strength of two Troops of Cavalry in Fauquier to be 129. I presume they are Captains Kemper and Hunton's Troops; they are, therefore, both complete. The Brigade Inspector of the First Brigade returns the total strength of two Troops in Culpeper to be 104. One of them must be Captain Turner's, and is complete. The Brigadier General of the Third Brigade returns the strength of Capt. Quarles' Troop at 58; it is, therefore, also complete. If any other information is required which the papers in the office of the Adjutant General will give, the Executive will be pleased to call for it.

I am, &c.

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## PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 14, Advising arbitration on the question of the freight on the gun stocks,  
 Richmond in controversy with Capt. Potter, as the shortest way of settlement.

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## HENRY BANKS, FOR CAPT. POTTER, TO PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS.

Jan. 14, Proposing an arbitration of the matter of freight on gun stocks, and  
 Richmond dismissal of suit of State against Potter.

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## HENRY ST. JOHN DIXON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 23, Soliciting arms for Capt. Baker's Troop of Cavalry, raised in Washing-  
 Richmond ton County.

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DANIEL SMITH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Praying in the name of Col. Geo. Huston, commanding the 58th Regiment of Militia, for a division of said Regiment into two, as it contains over thirteen hundred men.

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1806.  
Jan. 27,  
Richmond

Thomas Lee to account in the most summary and expeditious manner for arrears of collection that the said Thomas Lee is said to have died indebted to the Commonwealth.

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## PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

I last night received a letter from Mr. Robert Page, of Frederick, who has been counsel for the Commonwealth in a case of great importance depending in the Staunton Chancery Court, in which the Chancellor decided against the Commonwealth, and there is an appeal to the Court of Appeals. The case relates to a very large property in Frederick, formerly the Estate of a Mr. Martin, which was supposed by the Escheator to have escheated to the Commonwealth in consequence of Mr. Martin dying without heirs, who were citizens of this or any of the United States, and he was taking measures to enforce the escheat when Martin's devisees, who are aliens, applied for and obtained an injunction on the ground that Martin had directed the land to be sold and the proceeds to be applied to the benefit of his sisters in Scotland, who, though aliens, were alleged to be capable of taking such a bequest. Mr. Page was employed by the Executive to defend the Commonwealth on this injunction, which he did, and the plaintiffs believing (as it was supposed) that they would be defeated, dismissed their own bill. Another suit was instituted on behalf of the Commonwealth against Martin's heirs, to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of Martin's Estate, which, Mr. Page informs me, sold for twenty-three thousand pounds sterling, to the benefit of the public.

Jan. 30

The cause was twice argued in the Staunton Court, and on the first argument the Judge expressed an opinion favorable to the State, and overruled the defendant's demurrer. At a subsequent term, however, the Court reinstated the demurrer, the Judge having altered his opinion on the case, and finally decided in favor of the defendants. From this decision Mr. Page prayed an appeal to the Court of Appeals, and has now sent me a copy of the record to prosecute that appeal. Mr. Page also in his letter requests I would apply on his behalf to the Executive for such compensation as they may think proper to make him for his services in this cause.

1806.  
Jan. 30

The fee formerly received by him was in the injunction, which was an entirely distinct suit from this, and in which the Commonwealth succeeded by the plaintiffs' dismissal of their own bills. Mr. Page has enclosed me Hugh Holmes', Esq., certificate, shewing the nature and extent of the services rendered, and it is an act of justice for me to add, that Mr. Page has manifested in the cause great zeal and solicitude for the interests of the State. This I know, not only from the information of counsel attending Staunton Court, but also from the frequent communications I have had with him relative to the cause. From the notes of his argument, sent me at my request, I am also enabled to decide that Mr. Page bestowed great labor and research on the case. The inclosed receipts show that Mr. Page has advanced five dollars for the State, for the expense of publication against the absent defendants.

I am, &c.

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WM. WEAVER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 30      Soliciting an advance of \$400 to him as contractor for supplies of rations at the Point of Fork.

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WM. AUSTIN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 2,  
Richmond      Reporting the unsuccessful search up James River by Troop of Cavalry for prisoners escaped from the Penitentiary.

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Feb. 3      Resolved, That the Executive be requested to take immediate measures for removing to the Armory all the ordinance and military stores belonging to the State (not including those in the service of the United States or of this State), and render the same fit for service.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates.

Agreed to by the Senate.

Teste:

J. PLEASANTS, C. H. D.

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MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 3,  
Penitentiary      On Saturday John Boyd, John Vickers, Charles Hall, Patrick McNeil, Edward Jones, John Carter, John Tramble, and Isaac Harris, eight of the prisoners, got into a solitary cell, which they undermined, and from which they escaped.



Boyd, Vickers, Hall, McNeil, Jones, and Carter were retaken, and are now in confinement. Tramble and Harris escaped. It would afford me considerable pleasure if the Executive would enquire into the causes which have led to this unfortunate event. 1806.  
Feb. 3,  
Penitentiary

Inclosed is a description of the two men who escaped and who have not yet been taken.

I am, &c.

N. B.—This is the fifth attempt which has been made by the prisoners of the same nature, to escape since November last, four of which I was fortunate enough in time to discover.

M. M.

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JOHN MINOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of eighty stand of arms at Burk's Old Tavern, in Caroline, sent there for a company of artillerists, but not distributed, now needing care to prevent destruction. Feb. 5

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JOHN MOODY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting the appointment of Surveyor of the Falls of James River to remove obstructions to the passage of fish. Feb. 7,  
Richmond

The committee appointed by the Executive to inquire into the courses and circumstances attending the breaking of the Penitentiary house by prisoners and their escape from thence. Feb. 8

The escape is described and the report then proceeds as follows:

Your committee are decidedly of opinion that for so large a building and such a number of ingenious and daring desperadoes, three Turnkeys cannot be sufficient in any situation of the building, more particularly so in its present state, when the enclosure which was around the building to keep those off who might through the window introduce implements for effecting an escape, is broken down.

As to the conduct of the Keeper, your committee do not consider him implicated except in the three following instances:

1st. The suffering a key to remain in a shop door while the convicts are at work, notwithstanding the Turnkeys are traversing the various places of labour.

2nd. The not examining daily every room thought to be empty and supposed to be safely locked, altho' he may have done it frequently, as often as once a week.

1806.  
Feb. 8

3rd. Not making it requisite for a Turnkey to notice particularly the short absence of every convict who may, under the pretence of its being necessary, go out of the shop.

As to the first, your committee are of opinion that the Keeper or his Turnkeys acted improperly in suffering the key to remain in the door of the workshop, but they attribute this omission to a mistaken opinion that no evil could result from it while the assistants were passing from room to room.

The requisite now thought necessary in the second instance, seems never to have entered into the mind of the inspectors or any other person concerned in making the internal rules and regulations, and but for the late circumstance would probably never have been thought of.

The third head will require new regulations, and cannot, in the judgment of your committee, be guarded against without the employment of two or more assistants constantly in the workrooms, instead of one only.

Upon the whole, your committee cannot think that the Keeper ought to be subjected to such charge of neglect as to destroy confidence in his attention to the rules and regulations established for the government of the institution, and as he seems ready and willing to do whatever shall be required or thought necessary, we have no doubt but he will profit from his experience and be more vigilant hereafter.

W. FOUSHEE,  
JOHN HEATH,  
ALEX'R STUART.

Richmond, Feb. 8th, 1806.

Your committee think it a duty incumbent on them to state that the conduct of a certain negro man called Daniel, and who is the property of Mrs. Frances Newman, of the county of King William, was materially the means of recovering two of the criminals, to-wit: Boyd and Vickers, as he by engaging them with stones, in which he got, it is said, very much hurt, and thus retarded their escape until Mr. Reade came up, who took one of the convicts, and the negro took the other.

It is likewise said that several other negroes were very active in searching after the criminals. Daniel, we conceive, merits attention, and we also think the other negroes should receive some compensation.

It is advised that a warrant issue in favor of Martin Mims on the Contingent Fund for the sum of twenty dollars, to be distributed among those slaves who were most active in the pursuit of the prisoners who lately escaped from the Penitentiary. Negro Daniel excepted, to whom a warrant for ten dollars is advised to be issued, as compensation in part for services rendered on the same occasion.

A Return of the Strength of a Troop of Cavalry attached to the Second Regiment and Second Division of Militia of the State of Virginia, 1st day of December, 1805: Captain, 1; First Lieutenant, 1; Second Lieutenant, 1; Cornet, 0; Corporals, 0; Sergeants, 0; Trumpeter, 1; Privates, 37; total, 40. Swords, 0; Pistols, 0. 1806.

WM. LITTLEJOHN, Captain.

To the Governor.

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W. LITTLEJOHN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for Troop of Cavalry attached to Second Regiment of Militia. Feb. 8, Leesburg

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T. M. NELSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for Troop of Cavalry attached to the First Regiment of Militia. Feb. 19

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A Return of the Troop of Cavalry commanded by Capt. Thomas M. Nelson, of the First Regiment, First Division of Militia: Captain, 1; First Lieutenant, 1; Second Lieutenant, 1; Cornet, 1; Saddler, 1; Trumpeter, 1; Privates, 43; total, 47. Swords, 1; Pistols, 3 pair; Horses, 47; Saddles and bridles, 47; Holsters, 3 pair.

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JOHN H. PETERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for Troop of Cavalry raised in Prince George county. Feb. 21

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JOHN MOODY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Reporting violations of the Law of 1803 regarding obstructions to the Passage of fish in James River. Feb. 21

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THO. HUNTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Suggesting that as Major John T. Woodford resides within the limits of his (Hunton's) command, and he (Hunton) resides within the limits of Major Woodford's command, that convenience requires that a mutual change in commands should be made. Feb. 25, Richmond

WM. MONCURE TO JOHN HEATH, Esq.

1806.  
Feb. 27,  
Richmond

Mr. H. Eustace, agent for the Commonwealth in the management of the Estate or Tract of Land known by the name of Bristoe, in Prince William, advises me of his having already received on acc't s'd agency, 30,000 w't of Tobacco, for which he is offered 22s. Cash or 24s. 90 days' credit, and being in doubt which price and mode of sale would be best or most pleasing to the Executive for him to accede to, through me requests their advice relative to the same, which I herewith take the liberty of doing through you as a member of that honorable body.

I am, &c.

ED. HALLAM TO JOHN HEATH.

Feb. 28,  
Richmond

Soliciting arms for Company of 40 volunteers under his command.

Uniform to be worn by the Independent Corps of Artificers of the Virginia Manufactory of Arms:

A Black cap crowned with Bear-skin and ornamented with a blue sash; black cockade and black and red plume. The Coat to be of dark blue cloth; the cape, lapels, cuffs, and linings of the skirts to be of buff colour with yellow buttons, and for the officers yellow Epaulets. The vest and pantaloons to be of buff colour with yellow buttons. A black stock and black gaiters.

It is advised that a committee of two members of the Board be appointed once in every two months whose duty it shall be to visit the Jail and Penitentiary House once in two months, or oftener, at the discretion, and examine minutely into the manner in which the rules and regulations of the said Jail are carried into effect, and also into the other which they may judge proper relative to the said Institution, make a report thereof to this Board.

H. DEARBORNE, SECRETARY OF WAR, TO JOSEPH PERKINS, SUPERINTENDENT ARMORY AT HARPER'S FERRY.

March 1,  
War  
Department

Mr. Pettibone, the bearer, waits on you at my request for the purpose of communicating what he considers some useful improvement in the manufacture of arms, particularly in relation to an augur for boring

barrels of muskets and the application of cast steel in certain instruments.

I am, &c.

1806.  
March 1,  
War  
Department

T. WATKINS, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for Troop of Cavalry raised in Prince Edward county.

March 8,  
Prince  
Edward

MAR. 8TH, 1806.

It is advised that Major Clarke be authorized to proceed with the completion of the Foundry at the Manufactory of Arms, keeping within the appropriation for that purpose.

MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Receipt for twenty dollars for distribution amongst those slaves who were most active in the pursuit of the convicts lately escaped from the Penitentiary.

March 8,  
Penitentiary

The Bond of William McKein, contractor for building a Cupola with a Dome Roof and Belfry for the Manufactory of Arms, for the sum of two thousand dollars, is lodged.

March 10

JOHN STOKELY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing of the arrival of Harris, an escaped convict from the Penitentiary in Ohio, and giving his version of the manner of escape by means of tools made in the Penitentiary, &c.

March 13,  
Wood Co.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Gen'l John Shee, of Philadelphia, who was authorized to procure Twenty Thousand Gunstocks and other articles for this Institution, has lately forwarded to me the enclosed papers, shewing the state of accounts between himself and this Commonwealth, and that the articles purchased amount at this time to five hundred and eighty-two dollars and Twenty-five cents more than the Three thousand dollars which I transmitted to him last year by order of the Executive, in which sum he desires to be reimbursed.

March 15,  
Va. Man'f'y  
Arms

1806.  
March 15,  
Va. Man'y  
Arms

As it is only with cash that Gen'l Shee can procure Gunstocks upon the very low terms these are furnished, and as he has not completed the order for them, he will expect to receive money from the Commonwealth to enable him to pay for them as they are delivered to him. Perhaps a thousand or twelve hundred dollars would suffice for the present.

It will be prudent (I conceive) to embrace the present opportunity of procuring seasoned Pistol stocks at the low price of  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents the pair, as stated in the enclosed letter of the 17th ulto. Those persons who furnish the musket stocks have now on hand remnants of walnut wood fit only for Pistol Stocks, on which account they are offered thus low. About Five thousand pair, in addition to the number already ordered (to-wit, two thousand five hundred pair), will be a tolerable supply, and we cannot expect them to be cheaper.

I am, &c.

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H. YOUNG TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 21 You will please consider this as my resignation of my appointment of Brigadier General.

It would have been more formal to have enclosed my commission, which I would have done but for the circumstance of its having been taken out of my desk and my not being since able to recover it.

Will you be so obliging as to signify to me officially the receipt of this note and your decision thereon.

I am, &c.

March 21st, 1806.

Whereupon it is advised that the L. G. write to Gen. Young, acknowledging the receipt of his said letter, and that the same is considered to be a resignation of his office of Brigadier General.

Also that he will write to the oldest officer of the 1st Brigade, informing him of Gen. Young's resignation, and that the command of the Brigade devolves on and will remain with him till the vacancy be hereafter filled by the General Assembly.

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SAMUEL PAINE TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 28,  
Richmond

Mr. James Newell, the present possessor of the lead mines in V county, being desirous to deliver the remainder of the lead lent a mines some years ago by the Executive to Stephen and Moses / has requested me to apply to you to name some person to receive same instead of Mr. James McGavock, the former agent, who is

to attend to it, and has been so for some time past. If you choose to give direction in the business and will furnish me with the order, I will send it to Mr. Newell, or any other person you may think proper to name.

1806.  
March 28,  
Richmond

I am, &c.

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JOHN CLARK TO THE EXECUTIVE.

In compliance with your request, I submit the following as my idea of the kind of sword which should be presented by the State of Virginia to our distinguished fellow-citizen, Lieutenant O'Bannon. This idea is formed merely from a recollection of the circumstances relative to the attack upon Derne, as they have been detailed in the newspaper I have cursorily read.

March 29,  
Richmond

As that officer was a Lieutenant at the assault of Derne, the sword I conceive should be a Hanger (of the most approved construction) that being the kind of sword usually worn by officers of that rank. On one side of the blade shall be engraved an anchor (signifying that the officer belonged to the Navy), and under it the words: "This sword of honor is presented by the State of Virginia to her gallant son, Lieutenant Priestley N. O'Bannon, of the Navy of the United States." On the other side of the blade the words: "Assault and Conquest of the City of Derne, in Tripoli, April 27th, 1805." The hilt to be made of silver, and the following devices inlaid thereon with gold: The extreme end of the hilt to represent the head of a Turk (with a turban, mustachios, beard, &c.), signifying the conquest of the Turks, who were opposed to the Americans, &c., in the assault alluded to, an emblem of whose head is worn as a trophy. On one side of the hilt shall be represented the Goddess of Liberty hovering over the Fortress of Derne, bearing in one hand a laurel wreath, and with the other pointing to the hand of the intrepid O'Bannon while in the act of rearing the American standard on its castle. The colours of Tripoli are thrown beneath. On the other side of the hilt, opposite to Liberty, shall be represented an American captive at the entrance of a dungeon, in a disconsolate posture and loaded with chains, (significant of the object of the enterprise in which this officer distinguished himself). On the guard of the hilt, near the centre thereof (as in the Virginia coat of arms adopted in the Revolution), shall be represented a female figure (emblem of the genius of Virginia) trampling on the neck of a fallen Tyrant, her right hand grasping a thunderbolt, her left holding a scroll, on which is inscribed the words: "*Sic Semper Tyrannis*" (Such be the fate of Tyrants).

On the guard of the hilt near the blade shall be represented the American Eagle (emblem of the United States) in a flying attitude, with one of his talons in the act of unbarring the door of a dungeon, and with the

1806.  
March 29,  
Richmond

other tearing off the fetters of the American prisoners confined in Tripoli.

The sword to be furnished with a plain silver scabbard. The belt to be of buff leather, stitched with silver thread, and on the part thereof which crosses the breast, a golden crescent shall represent a distant view of the city of Derne and its battlements, with the brig Argus, schooner Nautilus, and sloop Hornet in the act of storming the town and fortifications.

I am, &c.

MARCH 31st, 1806.

March 31

It is advised that a proclamation be issued prescribing the uniform of the Militia of this Commonwealth to be as follows:

For the General Officers—A dark blue coat, skirts lined with buff, cape lapels and cuffs buff, yellow buttons, gold epaulets (one on each shoulder), black cocked hat, with black cockade, black stock and boots.

For the Artillery—A blue coat, skirts lined with red, cape lapels and cuffs red, vest and overalls white, with black gaiters, yellow buttons, a cocked black hat, with red cockade.

For the Light Infantry—A dark blue short coat, with half lapels, cape and cuffs white, white lining and buttons, vest and overalls white, with black gaiters, black half boots, black stock, hat round and cocked on the left side, with black cockade.

For the Grenadiers—A dark blue coat, cape lapels and cuffs white, white lining and buttons, vest and overalls white, with black gaiters, black half boots, black stock, cocked hat, with black cockade.

For the Riflemen—A linen hunting shirt of purple colour, with overalls of the same, leather mockisons or shoes, round hat cocked on the left side, with black cockade and black stock.

For the Main Body of the Militia—A blue hunting shirt trimmed with white fringe, white overalls and black gaiters, round hat cocked on the left side with black cockade and black and red plume half-boots.

The officers' uniform to be a dark blue coat, cape, lapels and cuffs white, white lining and buttons, vest and pantaloons white, with black gaiters, black stocks, cocked hat, with black cockade.

For the Cavalry—A short dark or bottle green coat with buttons lining, half lapels, cuffs and cape white, white vest, and leather breeches, jack boots, spurs, black stocks, and black leather cap dressed on the crown with bear skin, and decorated with a light blue sash and red and white plume.

The officers of the main body of the Militia, of the Light Infantry, Grenadiers, Riflemen, and Cavalry to be distinguished by epaulets of silver. The officers of the Artillery to be distinguished by epaulets of



gold. The field officers to wear two epaulets, the captains one on the right and the subalterns one on the left shoulder. All officers to wear side arms and boots. 1806.  
March 31

Provided, however, that where any Troop of Cavalry, Company of Artillery, Grenadiers, Light Infantry, or Riflemen, shall have provided themselves with an uniform different from that herein advised, they are respectively permitted to wear the same for eighteen months from and after the date of the proclamation herein advised.

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BOLLING BRANCH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for Troop of Cavalry commanded by him, raised in Buckingham county. March 31

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A return of the Troop of Cavalry commanded by Capt. James Wilson, of the first regiment and first division attached to the 98th Regiment of militia, Mecklenburg: Captain, 1; First Lieutenant, 1; Second Lieutenant, 1; Cornet, 1; Privates, 35. Total, 39. Horses, 39. April 1

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ROBERT ANDERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for company of Light Infantry commanded by him, raised in Williamsburg. April 4,  
Williamsburg

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The committee appointed by the Executive "to visit the Jail and Penitentiary House and examine minutely into the manner in which the rules and regulations of said Jail are carried into effect, and also into any other matter which they may judge proper relative to the same institution," have entered on the duties assigned to them, and submit the following Report, accompanied by a statement of facts with their own observations thereupon: April 4

That the labour of the convicts in the Penitentiary has not yielded a profit equal to the expenses of the institution is a fact which has long been known and acknowledged.

To trace the causes of this deficiency, and, if possible, to provide an adequate remedy, was one of the principal objects of the Executive in appointing a committee of their own body, whose duty it should be at stated periods, to examine into the subjects above mentioned. In performing this duty the present committee have minutely examined into all the interior operations of the Penitentiary, and they are impressed with the belief that the following causes have contributed to render the

1806.  
April 4

system not only an expense to the Commonwealth, but unequal to the expectations of its earliest admirers:

1st. A want of co-operation and attention on the part of some of the gentlemen appointed inspectors, it having been represented to the committee that no acting inspector has visited the Penitentiary since the fourth day of January last, about which time the period of service of the last inspectors expired. When it is considered that no measures of importance can be adopted by the Keeper of the Penitentiary without the approbation of the acting inspectors, the want of a regular attendance on their part must be attended with the most serious inconvenience.

2ndly. The difficulty of enforcing obedience to the rules and regulations prescribed for the government of the convicts, from the necessity imposed by law of calling in the aid of two inspectors and the Mayor of the city of Richmond before any adequate punishment can be inflicted on an offender.

3rdly. The exemption of the convict from labour on their own suggestion of indisposition, often, it is believed, on the most frivolous pretext. In confirmation of which opinion, the committee state that out of one hundred and eighteen prisoners now confined in the Penitentiary, twenty-nine were absent from labour on the plea of sickness when they visited the public Jail.

On this head the Committee cannot forbear to express it as their decided opinion that it should be made the duty of the Physician to attend at the Penitentiary regularly once in every day, and that no convict should be exempted from labour except such as were placed on the list of invalids by the Physician himself. At present the Physician never attends except when he has patients whose situation, in his judgment, requires his presence, or when he is particularly called in.

It is far from the intention of the committee to attach any degree of censure to the conduct of the physician. His attendance is as regular as the law requires, and perhaps more frequent than his limited salary would justify. They merely propose this as an amendment to the existing regulations, and if the idea meets with the approbation of the Executive they would cheerfully unite with their brethren in suggesting to the Legislature the propriety of augmenting his salary.

4thly. Not having a sufficient stock of materials of various kinds on which to employ the convicts in those branches of manufacture to which they had been particularly accustomed before their admission into the Penitentiary, it must be obvious that the labour of a person commencing a new branch of manufacture must be less productive than when applied to one with which he was well acquainted. Thus we find that among the convicts there are two persons who are turners by trade, but for want of materials they are engaged in shoemaking.

The simplicity and cheapness of the tools and apparatus necessary

for carrying on the turners' business, together with the durability of the materials, would render it, in the opinion of the committee (so far, at least, as the manufacture of Windsor chairs), a profitable branch, and one which ought to be introduced into the Penitentiary. It is also stated that there are two or more convicts well skilled in the wheelwright and wagon-making business, one of whom only is employed at that branch; the others are engaged at some other occupation for want of a stock of seasoned timber.

1806.  
April 4

5thly. There not being suitable work provided for those convicts who are either too much indisposed to attend to their usual occupations, but might be advantageously employed at some other business, or who are thrown out of their usual routine of duty by the sickness or absence of some others on whom they depend for a regular supply of work. In elucidation of this point, the committee state that in the shop for the manufacture of cut-nails, there are generally thirteen hands employed, many of whom are engaged in heading the nails. On account of the temporary indisposition of one of the nail-cutters there were but seven hands at work in that shop on the day in which the committee viewed it, and it was the opinion of the keeper that they could not be employed more than half their time.

Your committee recommend that the Governor be advised to suggest to the physician appointed to superintend the Penitentiary, the propriety of attending at that place once in every day in order to carry into effect the plan contemplated above, and that he be requested by the Governor to attend accordingly. It is further recommended by the Committee, that in all future appointments of inspectors of the Penitentiary, those gentlemen alone shall be appointed who had been previously consulted, and who had expressed a willingness to give their constant and regular attendance.

ALEX'R STUART,  
WM. W. HERRING.

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ROBERT B. TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of the action of a meeting of an association held in Norfolk for the purpose of organizing a Troop of Cavalry, at which the following persons were elected as officers, to be commissioned by the Governor and Council under the act of the 24th of January, 1804, and elected by the association, viz:

April 8,  
Norfolk

Robert B. Taylor, Captain; William Thompson, 1st Lieutenant; Sam'l Roane, 2nd Lieutenant; Thomas McCandlish, Cornet; Cary Selden, 1st Sergeant; Calvin Buckner, 2nd Sergeant; Thomas Armistead, 3rd Sergeant; Mathew P. Wright, 4th Sergeant.

## BENJ. WOLFE TO THE GOVERNOR.

1806.  
April 9

The Quarter Master of our Regiment informs me that our Colonel being from home, solicits me to inform you that he is in want of ammunition for the Troops which are to be on duty this night. I will, therefore, be thankful to deliver him a couple of hundred cartridges, which he will account for at any time.

I am, &c.

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## LITTLEBURY WEAVER TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 10

After seeing your advertisement in the Virginia Argus, I think it my duty to inform you that I have a brass six-pounder which, I believe, belongs to the State of Virginia. She was loaned to me by the Executive at the time the Garrison was broke up at the Point of Fork to exercise my company of Artillery with. The wood work belonging to her when I received her, was much decayed, and at this time is entirely rotten. The irons I have taken care of, which are still good.

I am, &c.

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## W. FOUSHEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 11,  
Richmond

Resigning his place as a member of the Council of State.

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## GEORGE DUNLEVY TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 16,  
Wood  
Court-house

Informing him that John Stephenson continues to hold and exercise the office of Justice of the Peace in Wood County in a very tyrannical manner, after accepting the appointment of Postmaster at Wood Court-House on the first of April, 1805, both of which offices he exercises contrary to Law.

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## JOHN TALIAFERRO TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 23,  
King George

Contending for his right to the Sheriffalty of King George County, which he conceived he did not forfeit by serving as a member of Congress at the period of his proper rotation as Sheriff.

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## EDWARD CARRINGTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 28

Expressing the opinion, in answer to request of the Governor, that in the case of Billy, negro man slave, under sentence of death by the Hust-

ings Court of Richmond, the omission of the duty imposed by Law of 1801, of forwarding to the Executive a copy of the evidence upon which the conviction was obtained, has vitiated the proceedings of the Court, and recommending a pardon as the easiest road out of the difficulty.

1806.  
April 28

J. PRESTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that James Newell, Esq., had made himself responsible for nineteen tons of lead due by Austin & Payne to the State, which would be ready for delivery as soon as wagons could be gotten to haul it. The cost of transportation to Lynchburg would be forty dollars per ton; same to Richmond fifty-six dollars per ton.

May 1,  
Horse-shoe  
Bottom

BERRYMAN GREEN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Acknowledging the receipt of the decision of the Council on the recommendation by the Court of Halifax county of Charles F. Wall as Colonel Commandant of the 69th Regiment, by the appointment of whom he would have been superceded. Expressing his gratitude and obligations for said decision.

May 1,  
Halifax  
County

I have this day inspected thirty dozen Cartridge Boxes for the Cavalry, fifty pair large Holsters for the Army Pistols, thirty-eight dozen straps to confine the Holsters, and fifty Sword Belts, all of which I find made out of good materials and in a workmanlike manner.

May 3,  
Penitentiary

LITT. W. TAZEWELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

On my return to this place from a late journey into the country I found yours of the 16th ult. This circumstance will explain why it has not been more early replied to.

May 3,  
Norfolk

The Troop of Cavalry which I formerly commanded in this place, has long since been broken up. More than two years since I resigned my commission and delivered it into the hands of the Colonel commanding the Regiment to which my Troop was attached, supposing that was the proper mode of resigning, and that he would make the necessary communication upon this subject to the Executive. The Troop continued some time after my resignation under the command of its First Lieutenant, but at length became totally extinct, and that officer together with many of the former Troopers have attached themselves now to the new Troop lately raised.

1806.  
May 3,  
Norfolk

Having already, as I have before remarked, delivered my commission to my commanding officer, it is now impossible for me to furnish that evidence of my resignation to the Executive as your letter seems to require. But I presume, under the circumstances I have stated, there will be no difficulty upon this subject. If there should such arise, I beg you, sir, to consider this letter as a new resignation, which is not accompanied with my commission for the reasons above stated. When to this shall be added, that the former First Lieutenant of my Troop is now presented to the Executive as the First Lieutenant of the new Troop, and my former Cornet as the Second Lieutenant, they will have complete official evidence of the extinction of the former Company, and will not, I hope, hesitate to qualify the present applicants, whose zeal and active exertion merit encouragement.

I am, &c.

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JOHN TALIAFERRO TO WM. W. HENING.

May 5,  
King George

Recommending Gawin C. Turbeville for appointment as Colonel of the militia of King George county as eminently fitted for said office by his Republican principles.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 7,  
Man'y  
Arms

Soliciting arms for Capt. Crutchfield's Company of Cavalry of Spotsylvania, amounting to forty-four men.

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BATHURST JONES TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

May 8,  
Hanover  
Court-house

I have lately observed in the Argus an advertisement under your signature, in consequence of instructions by you received from the Executive, to make enquiry respecting the situation of all ordinance, military stores, &c. I will with pleasure give you all the information that I possess, and should have made this communication sooner had it not been for the intervention of a variety of other business.

There is at New Castle a very fine Iron Gun (I believe) fellow to those on the Capitol Square; from its calibre I take it to be a 36-pounder. Near the Meadow Bridges, I am informed, there are two or three small Iron field pieces which have remained there from Gen'l Arnold's invasion (as it is called) to this day. I have never seen them; probably some information might be obtained through the medium of Col. Trueheart or Mr. Lewis Trueheart. At Hanover Town there are two cast Iron Mortar

beds and a considerable quantity of Shells and cannon Ball, many of which have been wantonly thrown into the River, but may be recovered with little labor and small expense.

1806.  
May 8,  
Hanover  
Court-house

This, Sir, is all the information I can now give you on the subject, but should I be fortunate enough to obtain more by the enquiries I shall make, it will give me pleasure to communicate it to you.

I am, &c.

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BENJAMIN BOTTS TO THE GOVERNOR.

An injunction of Escheat was returned to this District Court, and I am just apprized of an intention of the Ex'ors of the person last seized to prefer a monstrans de droit on Tuesday next. The land is of the value of about £2,000, and adverting to the practice of the Executive of employing assistant counsel in cases of this importance, I intended to inform them of the case that they might apply that practice to it. I waited, however, to ascertain that a course in the Court of common law would be taken by these claimants before I took measures for involving the public in the expense. The time afforded me will not admit of an interchange of letters with the Government before we shall be obliged to act, and I had my choice of risking the interests of the Commonwealth on my own exertions or of engaging counsel without consulting the proper authority.

May 10,  
Fredericks-  
burg

Gen'l Minor, to whom I have applied, has obligingly relieved me from my greatest difficulty by undertaking the case with me, leaving his compensation subject to the decision of the Executive on the propriety of retaining him, promising to claim nothing unless my employment of him should be approved.

I selected Gen'l Minor because in all former cases he has been employed by the Governor and Council.

I am, &c.

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WM. SHARP TO THE GOVERNOR.

In answer to your letter addressed to the Court of the Borough of Norfolk, dated the 16th of January last, I have the honor to state that by the charter of the Borough there can be only ten Justices of the Peace, to-wit: a Mayor, a Recorder, and eight Aldermen, of which number the following are in the commission: Mr. Luke Wheeler, Mayor; Mr. John Nivison, Recorder, and Messrs. Wm. Vaughan, Thomas H. Parker, Wm. B. Lamb, Theoderick Armistead, Richard E. Lee and John E. Holt

May 10,  
Richmond

1806.  
May 10,  
Richmond

are Aldermen, there being one vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Cornelius Calvert, and one by the resignation of Col. Newton.

That part of your letter respecting Militia fines imposed in the 54th Regiment since 1794 I am sorry, after diligent enquiry, I am unable to answer so fully as I wish. Instead of going back as far as 1794, I am obliged to begin in 1802, when Battalion Courts and a Regimental Court were regularly held. The fines then imposed and collectable are now in my possession. Your Excellency was yesterday told the reason.

The fines since that time have been regularly assessed and will be accounted for according to Law.

I beg leave now to state that by the last returns there appears to be about eight hundred men enrolled in the 54th Regiment, not more than two hundred and fifty of whom are armed. This at the first view will appear a great deficiency in the public arms, but the surprise will be in some manner removed when you are informed that a very large proportion of those missing were actually destroyed by the conflagration in February, 1804. Perhaps at no time since the Revolution was the military ardour ever at so great a height in the Borough of Norfolk as at the present. To give an idea of this I yesterday informed you, and now repeat, that on the 30th of last November at a Regimental muster only 96 men, except a few men in the Light Infantry companies, both not exceeding 60, were on the ground, and on the first day of this month at a muster of the Battalions we had on the field upwards of five hundred. I believe this arises from the fines being raised on each non-commissioned officer and private to five dollars, and to the peculiar situation of our foreign relations; for it will no doubt be admitted that in the event of war Norfolk would first feel its consequences.

The citizens, impressed with this belief, are extremely anxious that the Executive would put arms into their hands, that they may be in readiness to defend themselves in any emergency, and they rely with confidence it will be done.

I am aware that as no *positive* statement of the public arms in the hands of the Militia of Norfolk can *now* be made, the Executive will not be disposed to order any arms at this time for that place. If, however, upon an accurate statement, arms would be given, and your Excellency will be pleased to inform me, it shall be made with all possible dispatch, and in this event I beg leave to suggest the utility of furnishing me with a set of stamps for the purpose of marking the guns in the manner mentioned yesterday; the stamps will cost but little, and may have some effect. There being two Companies of Artillery in Norfolk and only two small cannon, two others (six-pounders) will be very acceptable.

No arms whatever have at any time been furnished the Troop of Horse. They are much wanted, and I hope will be granted. The Troop is upwards of fifty strong and are recruiting fast.



The Companies of Artillery are also without swords. From the loss of a memorandum since my arrival in Richmond, I am unable to make a more perfect statement of the 54th Regiment, but such as it is I respectfully submit it.

1806,  
May 10,  
Richmond

I am, &c.

WM. BROOKE TO WM. BROKENBROUGH.

Recommending G. C. Turbeville for the Colonelcy of the Militia of King George, and endorsing him as a Republican.

May 12,  
Fredericks-  
burg

The bond of Sam'l Pointer as contractor for furnishing Rations to the Public Guard from the 1st of May, 1806, to the 15th of October, 1806, at the rate of thirteen and a half cents per Ration (Ration to consist of same component parts as those issued to the Troops in the service of the United States, spirits excepted), in the penalty of four thousand dollars (the State agreeing to advance two thousand dollars to said Pointer on said contract), is lodged.

May 20

J. S. BARTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for a Troop of Cavalry commanded by him, attached to the 3rd Regiment.

May 23

WM. MADISON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for a Company in the 1st Battalion of the 82nd Regiment of Militia. Fifty-two Rifles needed to arm the Company.

May 23,  
Madison

CHARLES TODD, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Complaining of the act of the Court of Caroline in recommending Capt. Tompkins (his junior officer), for the commission of Major of the Caroline Regiment.

May 26,  
Caroline  
County

Henrico County, &c.:

I do certify that William Munford, Esq'r, this day took the oaths of a privy Councillor before me, a justice of the peace for the said County agreeable to Law.

Given under my hand, this 28th day of May, 1806.

DAN'L E. HYLTON.

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 PHILIP NORBORNE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

1806.  
May 30,  
Richmond

Replying to the question propounded by the Court of Spotsylvania, "whether a magistrate removing from his county to another county, and returning again to reside in the county from which he had removed, is still to be considered a magistrate in that county." The opinion given is that if the magistrate removed to a county or state, intending to become a resident thereof and actually residing therein, that he thereby forfeits or renounces his character of magistrate.

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Henrico County, &c.:

I do hereby certify that Wm. Aylett, Esq'r, this day took the oaths of a privy Councillor before me, a justice of the peace for said County agreeable to Law.

Given under my hand, this 31st day of May, 1806.

DAN'L L. HYLTON.

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 HANCOCK EUSTACE TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 2      Informing him of the collection by him as agent for the State, of 35,201 lbs. of crop Tobacco from the tenants on the Bristoe tract in Prince William, and reporting sales of same at 22s. cash, asking instructions as to the manner of paying in the same into the Treasury.

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I do with advice of Council hereby certify that Mary Windham is continued on the list of Pensioners with her former allowance for the year one thousand eight hundred and three.

Given under my hand as Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, at Richmond, this 7th day of June, 1806.

WM. H. CABELL.

Sam'l Coleman.

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IN COUNCIL, *June 7th, 1806.*

The Auditor will issue a warrant on the contingent Fund in favor of E. R., Esq'r, for one hundred and forty dollars in addition to the fee heretofore paid of \$40 in aid as Counsel to the Atty-General in a suit in the Court of Appeals of the Commonwealth against Bristoe's heirs.

## WILLIAM MUNFORD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Conscious as I am of the inferiority of my abilities to the task of doing justice to the many virtues of the deceased Patriot and Sage\*, and particularly of the difficulty of satisfying the expectations of a numerous audience to whom those virtues are well known, while my own heart is torn with sorrow for the death of a friend, it is with great reluctance that I yield to the request of the Executive and determine to engage in so arduous an undertaking.

1806.  
June 8,  
Richmond

However, as the ties of gratitude to the best of men for the extraordinary kindness he ever manifested towards me ought to prohibit my suffering him to go to his grave without an Eulogy, and gentlemen for whom I entertain such respect and affection, have honoured me so far as to apply to me on this occasion, I cannot refuse to comply, flattering myself with an hope that they will consider the melancholy subject of the discourse, and forgive the imperfections of the Speaker.

I am, &c.

\*Chancellor Wythe.—Ed.

At a meeting of the officers of the 23rd Regiment of Virginia Militia, at Z. Brooks' tavern, in the town of Manchester, agreeably to previous notice, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proclamation of his Excellency the Governor of the 15th of March last, declaring what should be the uniform of the Militia of this Commonwealth.

June 8

Col. Thomas Branch being unanimously called to the chair and Wm. B. Clarke appointed Secretary, the meeting then proceeded to take into consideration the said proclamation, and after mature deliberation, unanimously resolved that a respectful memorial be drawn up and presented to his Excellency the Governor touching the subject of the said proclamation, whereupon a committee was appointed to draft the same, and the following was unanimously agreed to:

*To His Excellency the Governor of Virginia:*

The officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the 23rd Regiment of Militia, respectfully represent to your Excellency that the proclamation of your Excellency of the 15th day of March last directing the uniform of the Virginia Militia, has produced some *agitation* in this and every other Regiment, as far as your memorialists have been informed.

The old revolutionary characters are concerned at parting with an old *military acquaintance*. They respect the true blue with which they were clothed and under which they fought, and their facing and their faces

1796.  
June 5

were presented to the enemy with success. The same they beg leave to state they will be happy to retain. Independent of the attachment of your memorialists to this happy and military uniform, they beg leave further to suggest to your Excellency their prompt submission to any orders issued from the proper source.

The orders are issued from the correct source, but they beg leave to remark that most of the officers in this Regiment, and they presume others also, are uniformed according to an ancient custom, and if they be directed to discontinue the old uniform and assume the one now ordered, they will in many instances be compelled to encounter an expense which they cannot meet or defray, and thus the character of the officer may be improperly tested by his appearance.

Your memorialists, with great deference, beg leave to observe that the ancient uniform (to wit: blue and red) is much more durable and military, less liable to soil, and better calculated to inspire martial ardor.

THOMAS BRANCH, Chairman.

WM. B. CLARKE, Secretary.

#### WM. SHARP TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 12,  
Norfolk

Agreeable to the directions contained in your Excellency's letter to me of the 4th Inst., I have the honor to forward to you a correct return of the strength of the 54th Reg't and of the Artillery and Troop of Horse raised within its bounds.

That part of the town destroyed by the fire in 1804 was inhabited by persons, the greater part of whom have removed away without giving any account of their arms, &c. This, and the frequent resignation of officers since that time, renders it impossible for me to ascertain even the number lost, much less to prove the same by affidavits. All I can do is to give, as I now do, a correct return of the number of guns now in the Regiment, which amounts to 238, fifteen of which number are in bad order, and at this time unfit for service.

I trust, Sir, that if the Executive shall be disposed to furnish this Regiment with the requisite number of guns, &c., to arm that part of the militia yet unarmed (to-wit, 327), that they will be forwarded in time for parade on the 4th of July. The officers and privates are in considerable anxiety, and have made repeated applications to me on this subject. I therefore hope you will excuse my again urging this measure, and that you will be pleased to inform me as soon as may be.

Captain Taylor has requested me to communicate to your Excellency the high sense which he entertains of the obligation he is under to the Executive for their promptitude in offering to arm the Troop under his

command, and hopes to receive the arms by the 4th of July. The Artillery are in high spirits at the idea of receiving swords by that day.

1806.  
June 12,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

A Return of the strength of the 54th Regiment of Virginia Militia, including the Troop of Horse and Artillery thereto attached, and the arms and accoutrements in possession thereof:

Militia—1 Lieut.-Colonel, 2 Majors, 10 Captains, 10 Lieutenants, 9 Ensigns, 0 Cornetts, 38 Sergeants, 38 Corporals, 2 Drummers, 2 Fifers, 0 Trumpeters, 550 Privates; 662 Total officers and men. In good order—223 Muskets and Bayonets, 118 Cartridge Boxes, 0 Swords, 0 Field pieces, 1 colour.

Troop—1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 0 Ensign, 1 Cornet, 4 Sergeants, 1 Trumpeter, 47 Privates; 60 Total. Swords, colours, pistols, saddles, horses—all private.

Artillery—2 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 6 Sergeants, 101 Privates; 113 Total officers and men. 15 Muskets.

It is ordered that the Governor be requested to write to the commandant of the 54th Regiment, requiring that he cause a special report to be made to him by the Captains of his Regiment of the manner in which the arms furnished to their companies respectively, and not now to be found, have been lost; that in the mean time one hundred and ninety stands of arms be furnished to Col. Sharp to be put into the hands of such of the militia of the 54th Regiment as have not yet been furnished with arms.

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RICHARD KELSICK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for a company of seventy men raised in Portsmouth, commanded by himself.

June 12,  
Portsmouth

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WILSON DAVENPORT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking instruction as to the sufficiency of a pedlar's license taken out in Bedford by Lieuder & Drison, merchants of Lynchburg, to sell goods in the Town of Danville.

June 13,  
Lynchburg

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CAMPBELL CLERK'S OFFICE, *June 13th, 1806.*

I hereby certify that current report saith that William Anderson, late Sheriff of this County, was killed by a stroke of Lightning on Tuesday evening last (the 10th Inst.), which I believe to be the fact.

RO. ALEXANDER, C. C. C.

## SULLIVAN KING TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 14. I enclose the return of Sheriff of Campbell on account of the death being  
 returning of Wm. Anderson late Sheriff of that county.

## HAYDON ESTATE TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 21. States that on the amount collected for the rent on the Bristol tract of  
 land in Tennessee, and paid by him for \$1255 96-100, the commission  
 allowed by the Executive—viz. 5 per cent—is insufficient compensation  
 for the labor and trouble incurred by him.

## PHILIP NORDORSE NICHOLAS TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 25, The complaints exhibited by Mr. Dunlevy against Mr. John Stephen-  
 Richardson son, who acts as a magistrate in Wood County, are—1st, that he con-  
 tinues to act as a magistrate notwithstanding his now exercising the  
 functions of Deputy post master at Wood Court house. There is no  
 doubt that under the Act of Assembly that Mr. Stephenson, by his  
 acceptance of the place of post master, has vacated his appointment of  
 magistrate. The proper course will be for the attorney for the District  
 to file an information in the nature of a quo warranto in the District  
 court, to remove Mr. Stephenson from his appointment of magistrate.

The other charges against Mr. Stephenson, impute to him oppressive  
 and tyrannical conduct under colour of his office as magistrate. This  
 would certainly amount to a high misdemeanor, for which a person on  
 conviction on information filed, would be liable to fine and imprison-  
 ment.

In the 4th volume of Blackstone's Commentaries, page 140, it is said  
 "There is yet another offence against public justice which is a crime of  
 deep malignity, and so much the deeper as there are many opportuni-  
 ties of putting it in practice, and the power and wealth of the offenders  
 may often deter the injured from a legal prosecution. This is the  
 oppression and tyrannical partiality of judges, justices, and other magis-  
 trates in the administration and under the colour of their office.

"However, when prosecuted either by impeachment in parliament or  
 by information in the Court of Kings bench (according to the rank of  
 the offenders), it is sure to be severely punished with forfeiture of their  
 offices, fines, imprisonment, or other discretionary censure regulated by  
 the nature and aggravations of the offence committed." In a prosecu-  
 tion which was removed to the General Court a few years ago, to be tried  
 at the bar of that Court, in which the information charged oppressive

and tyrannical conduct on a magistrate in the execution of his office, although there was a dispute about the facts, yet neither counsel or Court seemed at all to controvert the law. Mr. Dunlevy had better therefore bring the charges which he now prefers, before the attorney of the District in which the offence was committed, whose duty it will be to proceed in the case.

1806.  
June 25,  
Richmond

I am, &c.

I have this day inspected three hundred p'r of large Holsters for the Armory Pistols, three hundred sword belts and eleven dozen p'r strops to confine the Holsters; all of which I find well made and out of good materials.

THO. UNDERWOOD.

Penitentiary, 5th July, 1806.

JOHN TEAKLE, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Recommending Samuel Crippen for appointment as Commissioner of Wrecks in Accomack Co., in his own stead, which office he desires to resign.

July 12,  
Accomack  
County

JOHN T. HUNGERFORD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for the 111th regiment of militia.

August 5,  
Ludstown

ROBERT PERKINS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for a company of Light Infantry raised in New Kent.

August 7,  
New Kent

At a court continued and held for Albemarle County the 7th of August, 1806.

It is ordered by the Court that Samuel Carr be nominated and recommended to the Governor and council of this Commonwealth as a proper person to be commissioned Captain of a troop of horse to the 88th Regiment in the room of Thomas Divers, resigned, and it is further ordered that it be certified that in Balloting, the said Samuel Carr had twelve votes, and Douglass Bowcock, in opposition, two votes.

A copy—Teste:

JOHN NICHOLAS.

## SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

1866.  
August 16.  
Richmond

The Stamps required by Colonel Sharp are the Arabic figures in the nature of Types from 1 to 0; that is, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0, by which any number may be stamped on the musket.

The strength of the two companies of Artillery in Norfolk to be furnished with Swords is 107, according to Col. Sharp's return. They are of the 4th Regiment of Artillery.

The strength of the troop of Cavalry to be armed in Norfolk is 56. It is of the 4th Reg't of Cavalry.

The strength of Captain Elliott Muse's Troop of cavalry to be armed is 40, if I understand the return right.

Enclose it for your inspection. This Troop is also of the 4th Regiment of Cavalry.

I am, &c.

PENNINGTON, 18th of August, 1866.

I have this day inspected three hundred p's Large Holsters for the Artillery pistols, and three hundred Sword belts for the Cavalry; all of which I find made out of good materials and in workman-like manner.

THO. CYDERWOOD.

## JOHN DAVE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 22.  
Zanmer  
Court-house

I presume you are aware this morn'g of the return of Lieut J. N. Shannon to this country as that occurrence took place five or six weeks past. Having been instrumental in obtaining in the Legislature the donation of a sword to him, I should have taken the liberty of giving to your Excellency the information of his return to this country where he resides, but have been from home ever since his arrival until a few days past. Any communication which the Executive may have to make to him may reach him at this place.

I am, &c.

## JOHN FITZGERALD TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 28.  
Notoway

Submitting arms and accoutrements for a company of Cavalry raised in Notoway, commanded by himself.



The Governor submitted to the Council a letter from Christopher Clarke, Esq., resigning his seat in the Congress of the United States as a Representative of the District composed of the counties of Bedford, F., P. and H. Whereupon it is advised that writs of election be issued to the several Sheriffs of the counties aforesaid, directing them to hold elections in their several counties, to-wit: in each county of the District, except the county of Franklin, on the Court day of each county in October next. In the county of Franklin on the Court day of said county in November next. For the information of the electors of the District aforesaid, it is ordered that a copy of the preceding advice be published for three weeks successively in the Virginia Argus and the Lynchburg Gazette.

1806.  
August 28

WM. GIBSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

I received your circular dated July 11th. Pursuant to that advice and agreeable to your request, I have forwarded to you a return of the strength of a volunteer Light Infantry company under my command, which is the only company of volunteers we now have in motion. There has been a company of Cavalry, formerly under the command of Elias Edmonds, Cnptain, but that company has since dissolved, the term of their enlistment being out. There is now a new company raised, but no officers commissioned to compleat the company; therefore I could not ascertain their strength. The officers have been recommended by the Court. Whether the recommendations came to your hand I know not. I will now recommend the same persons, who I think are adequate: Armistead Currie, Captain; Samuel M. Shearman, First Lieutenant; Richard Berryman, Second Lieutenant, and Thomas Pollard, cornet.

Sept. 1,  
Lancaster  
County

I am, &c.

JOHN CARTER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him of his purpose of resigning his position as an assistant to the Auditor on account of insufficiency of salary, and asking for testimonials from the Executive to aid him in procuring employment elsewhere.

Sept. 8,  
Auditor's  
Office

CHRISTOPHER GREENUP TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the honor of inclosing you an affidavit of Mr. Nath'l Hart and the \*certificates of Messrs. Andrew Crockett and James True (all respec-

Sept. 12,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky

\* Certificates omitted.—Ed.

1806.  
Sept. 12,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky

table characters) concerning a Toll gate lately erected near the top of the Cumberland Gap, on the Virginia side, complaining of the unjust conduct of those who have the direction of it. I have also many verbal complaints made to me on that subject, and believe the conduct of those who have fixed the gate to be reprehensible. It has also been represented to me that the inhabitants who live near the foot of the mountain on the west side, are obliged to pass thro' the Gap to a mill at the foot of the mountain on the east side, and consequently are compelled to pay toll without deriving any benefit from it. I have, therefore, to request your Excellency to interpose and rectify the abuse if in your constitutional power; if otherwise, that you cause the same to be represented to your next General Assembly.

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MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 18,  
Penitentiary

The situation of this place is truly disagreeable and dangerous. A determination to escape has been decidedly evinced by a considerable number of the convicts. They made several attempts, both artful and desperate, in the course of the last winter, but they were fortunately discovered. Hitherto they have been treated with lenity and advised to act more correctly, but they appear insensible to favour and admonition. Safety can only be expected, therefore, from *interior vigilance* and *exterior force*. I conceived it my duty to give you this information, and permit me to add that I do not consider the present guard competent to protection.

I am, &c.

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It appears from the Records of Military Bounty Warrants that on the 25th of Feb'y, 1784, a warrant for 4,666 $\frac{2}{3}$  acres Issued in the name of Simon Morgan in consideration of his services for seven years as a captain in the continental line, and that no other warrant has issued in his name for the like services.

WM. PRICE, Reg'r.

Land Office, Sep. 20th, 1806.

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I am called upon by my worthy Friend, Col. Simon Morgan, to certify my knowledge of his entrence into the service of the United States as an officer of the Revolutionary war.

I have it in the most perfect recollection, seeing Col. Morgan at Fort Pitt in the month of September, 1775, where I attended as a Commissioner for holding a Treaty with the Western Indians, and hearing from

# MEMORIAL OF STATE PAPERS

201

him and others that it was about this time appointed a commission in a company commanded by Captain John Stephenson, which company was annexed to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Abraham Buford, Washington.

In the fall of the following year I was appointed to a commission in the Continental Army and continued until the close of the war, the 20th November, 1781, the exact term of my service being seven years and three days, during which time I was intimately acquainted with Gen. Morgan and by well known persons testify that he was well recommended by all his superiors as a brave and meritorious officer, and continued in service until the end of the war. At this I have no doubt as I was President of the last Board of officers who made an arrangement of the Virginia Line of Continental establishment.

Given under my hand this 24th of September, 1781.

JAMES WISSE,  
Formerly Brigadier-General Continental Army

I certify that Simon Morgan was to my knowledge one of the most brave and valuable officers of the Virginia Line on Continental establishment during the Revolutionary war. I cannot undertake to say with precision the commencement or ending of his term of service, but as he was notoriously a Captain in that line and received a wound in the battle of Eutaw in September, 1781, it is very probable he continued to the end of the war.

B. CANNONIER,  
Late Lieut. Colonel Artillery

JOHN CLARKE TO COL. MATTHEW HARVEY.

I have received your letter of the 22d ult. per negro Billy. The iron sent by his wagon has been delivered here and appears to be good, but we have not yet had time to make trial of its quality. I am sorry to inform you that the sum appropriated by the last General Assembly for making arms is so nearly exhausted, that I do not expect it will be sufficient to keep the works going until the meeting of the Legislature. Thus circumstanced, I have thought proper to have your iron kept separate from any other, so that you may either have it again on application or wait for payment until another appropriation shall be made by the Legislature. The making of arms requires the purest and most malleable iron: for such, one hundred and twenty-eight dollars and fifty cents is the highest price we have given. Should your iron prove to be of such quality, the same price will be allowed for it: and I heartily hope that the mines of our country will be found capable of producing iron equal

101 3

1806.  
Oct. 3

to any in the world, and they surely ought to be encouraged in preference to any others.

There are ninety-three bars of iron delivered here by Billy, weigh one ton nine hundred one quarter and twenty-five pounds.

I am, &c.

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The Treasurer being enjoined to close the accounts of his Office the 30th day of September, annually, We, the undersigned then appointed by the Executive (as appears by the foregoing copy of order), repaired to the Treasury on the morning of the first day of October, in order to ascertain the amount of money and other facilities in treasury received on public account and constituting the balance therefrom on the 30th day of September, 1806.

Upon examination, we find the balance actually on hand to be hundred and twenty-one thousand and seven hundred sixty-three dollars sixty-two cents, which has been deposited by the Treasurer in Bank of Virginia.

AL. McRA  
WM. AYLE

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ROGER GREGORY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 1

Forwarding \*return of volunteer company of the 98th regiment militia of Mecklenburg with their equipment. Part of the muskets said regiment much out of repair.

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STEPHEN WRIGHT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 6,  
Norfolk Co.

Regretting that arms for a rifle company can not be furnished. Requesting that commissions for the officers of the 7th regiment be forwarded.

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SAM. SHEPARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 8,  
Auditor's  
Office

Informing him that warrants had been issued on the fund appropriated by an act of the last session of Assembly "for manufacturing arms, including officers' salaries," for thirty-nine thousand eight hundred and fifty-one dollars and forty cents, since the 5th of February last.

JOHN HEISKEL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Represents that there is a handsome field-piece lying at the "Point of Lexa" the property of the State of Virginia, asking that the said gun be assigned to the artillery company to which he is attached.

1866.  
Nov. 4

Granted, provided the company pay the expense of removal and fitting up.

At a Regimental Court of Enquiry held at Campbell Court House for the 33rd Regiment V. A. militia, the 22nd day of November, 1866:

Nov. 22

Ordered that Col. Thomas M. Clarke be, and he is hereby requested to petition the Governor and Council for a division of the 33rd Regiment of Virginia Militia, and that he request that the said division be made by the present Battalion lines, so as to form two Regiments in the County of Campbell.

Total strength, 1093.

DAVID G. TALBOT.

BENJAMIN HADEN.

Majors.

Sixteen Captains and Lieutenants.

Amount of warrants drawn on the fund for completing the Manufactory of Arms from the 5th of February last to this day, \$5,512 27.

Am't of warrants drawn on the fund for completing the Foundry and Boring mill from 5th of Feb'y, 1866, to this day, \$1,380 46.

S. SHEPARD.

Aud's office, 22nd Nov'r, 1866.

WILLIAM GUERRANT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Accepting the appointment as agent of the State for renting the land upon which the Buckingham furnace was erected.

Nov. 24,  
New Canton

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

In compliance with your desire as stated in your letter of the 13th Instant, I have to state that arms for all the Troops of Cavalry ordered to be armed by the Executive have been sent to them except Capt. Riddick's Troop and the Troop commanded by Capt. Muse; the arms for

Dec. 18

1806.  
Dec. 18

which are not yet sent from the armory, although they are stamped in the usual manner and are ready for delivery at any moment, which completes all the orders I have received for arming the cavalry. Beside which we have now on hand 173 Virginia manufactured Pistols, 256 Pistols made at Philadelphia, 547 crooked double-fluted swords of Virginia manufacture, 394 streight swords made at the armory; also 17 streight single-fluted swords, 254 Philadelphia made swords, 100 sword belts, 49 p'r Holsters, 48 p. Holster straps, 113 cartridge boxes, 17 streight Iron scabbards, 75 streight leather scabbards.

I am, &c.

Henrico County, &c.:

I do hereby certify that Lewis Harvey, Esq., this day took the oaths of a privy Councillor before me, a Justice of the Peace for the said county, agreeable to Law.

Given under my hand this 6th day of December, 1806.

DAN'L L. HYLTON.

Certificates of Dr. Wellford, Geo. French, Chas. L. Carter, and David C. Ker concerning Ambrose Lewis, a soldier, who had been nine times wounded while in the army under General Gates, and being disabled thereby from labor, was by them considered to be entitled to an increase of pension.

Dec. 16th, 1806.

The petition of the officers of the 76th Regiment of Virginia Militia for a division of the said Regiment into two by the River Monongalia, which would give about 600 to one Regiment, on the east, and 500 to the other Regiment, on the west side of said river.

[Many signatures.—ED.]

CHRISTOPHER GREENUP TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 27,  
Frankfort  
Kentucky

By direction of the General Assembly of this State, I have the honor of enclosing to your Excellency an address respecting the Turnpike or Toll-gate erected in the gap of Cumberland mountain, and to request you to cause the same to be laid before the Legislature of the State over which you preside.

I have, &c.

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, December 26, 1806

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky here with concern received information that the Court of Lee in the State of Virginia under an act of that State passed December 25th 1805 entitled "an act to authorize the County Court of Lee to erect a Turnpike or toll ~~gate~~ gate on the road leading from Mockerson Gap to Cumberland Gap through said County" have erected said gate near the top of Cumberland mountain within a few feet of their State line—a place evidently not warranted by the act of Assembly and not within the contemplation of the Legislature of the State of Virginia inasmuch as it is expressly the object of the law that the said Turnpike should be erected for the purpose only of "keeping the said road in repair" and its present situation subjects to the payment of toll an immense number of travelers using other roads than that leading from Mockerson Gap to Cumberland gap.

1806.  
No. 2.  
President  
Kentucky

The Executive of the State of Kentucky communicated some time since this impropriety to the Executive of Virginia, and it was with pleasure that this General Assembly received information that his Excellency, the Governor and Executive council of Virginia had taken the subject into consideration and had directed a suspension of said Toll gate erected on Cumberland mountain until the meeting of the Legislature of that State. But as it is represented to this General Assembly that the said Toll gate still remains on Cumberland mountain with a body of armed men to guard it, and compel the payment of toll, they take the liberty of remonstrating against this improper conduct of the county court of Lee, and have every confidence that the Legislature of Virginia will at their present session adopt measures to remove the evil.

Resolved, That the Governor of this State be, and he is hereby requested to transmit as early as may be, a copy of the foregoing remonstrance to the Executive of the State of Virginia with a request that the same may be laid before the Legislature of that State.

WILLIAM LOGAN, M. H. R.  
GREEN CLAY, M. H. P.

Approved Dec. 26, 1806.

CHIEF OF CHIEFS,  
Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

By the Governor:

JOHN ROWAN, Sec'y.

A copy Attached:

JOHN ROWAN, Sec'y

## P. CARRINGTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1807.  
Jan. 1,  
Charlotte  
County

Having served my country forty-two years without intermission, twenty-nine of those years devoted to the Judiciary department, and being now in the seventy-fifth year of my age, I think it time for me to retire from public business to the exalted station of a private citizen. Under this impression, I think proper to resign my office of a Judge of the Court of Appeals. Enclosed is my commission with a resignation annexed, and I no longer consider myself a member of that honourable court.

This you will be pleased to communicate to the Honourable General Assembly now in session, to whom my highest respects are tendered, with a well-founded hope that their honest labours may promote the public welfare.

With my compliments, and unfeigned respects to that Honourable Body, your aids and associates,

I am, &c.

## CHRISTOPHER TOMKINS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 10 Forwarding his resignation as Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of the 87th Regiment of Militia.

## THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Jan. 11,  
Norfolk

On my arrival here on Friday, I learnt that the General Government had removed all obstacles to the progress of Rose. He accordingly left the British Ship Ituria yesterday morning in Palmer's packet, with the determination of proceeding for George Town or Annapolis, as the wind should serve. On their arrival off Potomack it appears that the objections started by Mr. Ronsvere, that the ship he came in was not comprehended in the Proclamation of the President; and being the bearer of a Minister Extra. was to be considered entitled in every respect to all the privileges of any vessel of any other nation with whom the United States were at peace. The Government of the United States have so determined it.

The Triumph, of seventy-four Guns, was yesterday in Lynnhaven Bay. This ship, I am informed, has been in the same position for some days past, but remains without offering any offence except that of being in our waters.

I am, &c.



**CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS**

1864

**A. LEWIS TO THE GOVERNOR.**

Asking permission to leave the service of the Government to his children to raise a Regiment of Volunteers in the Army of the United States. Jan. 10  
1864

**Wm. V. LAMITE TO THE GOVERNOR.**

Requesting the appointment of himself in the position of Captain. Jan. 10  
1864  
Wm. Richardson and Edward Italian, 19th Regiment, Illinois.

**JOHN CLARK TO THE GOVERNOR.**

Reporting condition of arms at the county of Gloucester, recently sent to the Army of the United States. Jan. 10  
1864

**HERBERT GLEN TO THE GOVERNOR.**

Forwarding his resignation as Lieutenant Colonel in the 8th Regiment of Virginia Militia, with his reasons therefor. Jan. 10  
1864

**JOSEPH HART TO THE GOVERNOR.**

Soliciting appointment as Ensign in the Public Guard, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Ensign Church. Jan. 10  
1864

**SAMUEL McCRAW TO THE GOVERNOR.**

Solicits the appointment of Ensign in Public Guard for Mann B. Valentine, with recommendations. Jan. 10  
1864

**B. A. DAWSON TO THE GOVERNOR.**

Solicits appointment as Ensign in the Public Guard, in the room of Robert Crouch, removed. Jan. 10  
1864

**PETER CRUTCHFIELD TO THE GOVERNOR.**

Solicits appointment as Ensign in the Public Guard, in the room of Robert Crouch, removed. Jan. 10  
1864

## FRANCIS THORNTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

1897.  
Jan. 29.  
Richmond      Solicits appointment as Ensign in the Public Guard, in the room of Robert Crouch, removed.

## JOSEPH FAUCETT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 2.  
Harrison-  
burg      Solicits appointment of agent for collecting arrears of Taxes from Sheriffs.

## ALEXANDER QUARRIER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 5,  
Richmond      On the bells being rung last evening, I went to the barracks, and my first orders were to stop the bell, as I discovered no danger from the fire. I then ordered the men on parade, and before that order was executed, the sentinel on post fired his gun, and I immediately hailed, "Who fired?" No answer, but my name called, by who I did not know. When I went to the sentinel's post, I found Mr. McCredie almost dead with a shot from the sentinel's gun. I then ordered the sentinel under guard. I then ordered Mr. McCredie to be carried into my room, where he expired.

I cannot say whether the sentinel was intoxicated or not, as I did not see him by light till he was brought before the Coroner. Both non-commissioned officers said he was not. My Lieutenant, though, thinks differently, as he went into the guard-room and seen him.

I am, &c.

## JOSEPH POLLARD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 5,  
Goochland      Solicits appointment as agent for collecting arrears of Taxes from Sheriffs in his District.

## JOHN WARNER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 8,  
Cumberland      Solicits appointment as agent for collecting arrears of Taxes from Sheriffs in his District.

## MARTIN MIMS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 12,  
Penitentiary      Informing him of his intention to resign his place as Superintendent of the Penitentiary, to take effect on March 31st, 1897.

BRIGADE AGENTS APPOINTED.

1. Nimmo, Jr., appointed agent for 1st Brigade, formed of counties comack, Northampton, Princess Anne, Norfolk, and Borough of lk. 1807.  
Feb. 12

k Street, 2nd and 3rd Brigades, composed of counties of Nanse-, Isle of Wight, Southampton, Surry, Sussex, Prince George, outh City, Warwick, York, James City, Charles City, New Kent, ver, Henrico, cities of Richmond and Williamsburg.

er C. Rice, 4th Brigade, composed of counties of Gloucester, Mat-, Middlesex, Essex, King William, King and Queen, Lancaster, umberland, Richmond and Westmoreland.

odosious Hansford, 5th and 6th Brigades, counties of Loudoun, x, Fauquier, Prince William, Stafford, and King George.

1. C. Williams, 7th and 8th Brigades, counties of Culpeper, Madison, e, Spotsylvania, Caroline, Louisa, Goochland, Fluvanna, Albemarle, mherst.

eph Fawcett, 9th, 10th, 14th and 15th Brigades, counties of Frederick, ley, Jefferson, Rockingham, Augusta, Shenandoah, and Hampshire.

ies McFarlane, 11th, 12th and 13th Brigades, counties of Hardy, eton, Monongalia, Ohio, Brooke, Harrison, Randolph, and Wood.

1. Norvell, 16th, Pittsylvania.

omas T. Bouldin, 17th, exclusive of Pittsylvania.

for Edward Pegram, 18th and 19th Brigades.

Agents to give Bond and security for double the amount he has lect in the District so appointed. The Governor to call upon the ey General to have proper Bond formed to be given by the Agents nted to collect arrearages. The agents appointed to have their s inserted in the Argus and Enquirer.

THOS. UNDERWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR.

ave this day inspected one hundred and twenty-five sword belts for Feb. 13,  
valry. and one hundred and twenty-five pair large holsters for Penitentiary  
ry pistols, all of which I find well made and out of good materials.

I am, &c.

H. DEARBORN, SECRETARY OF WAR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

ir Excellency's letter on the subject of Cavalry arms has been duly Feb. 13,  
ed, and by Lieut. Col. Williams, who is on his way to South Caro- War  
have the pleasure of forwarding a pistol manufactured at the Department

1807.  
Feb. 13,  
War  
Department

public Armory at Harper's Ferry, which I consider a good sample of horseman's pistol. We have no swords of any kind at this place, nor any in our Arsenal which I would recommend. A horseman's sword fit for actual service is one of the most difficult weapons to procure; the size, the shape, and, above all, the temper, has long been a subject of attention in the different parts of Europe. A sword of sufficient weight and length made of such steel and so tempered as to render its use effectual without bending or breaking, requires more skill and care in the manufacture than is often to be met with in any country. I have lately sent to a noted extensive sword manufactory in Germany for a few hundred swords of different kinds, and hope to be able to procure such samples as will possess the several necessary qualities.

One good pistol and a suitable sword are sufficient arms for a horseman.

I am, &c.

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JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 19,  
Va. Man'y  
Arms

In consequence of a resolution of the Legislature relative to the operations of this institution, Cyrus Edson, late a Lieutenant in the first company of the "Independent Corps of Artificers," has removed to New England, and the office lately held by him has now become vacant.

The officers of the said corps, therefore, are desirous (provided it shall meet the approbation of the Executive) that Levi Peck, Ensign in the said company, be promoted to the said vacant Lieutenantcy, and that Robert Stewart be commissioned for the office of Ensign in the said company.

I am, &c.

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CHARLES YANCEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 20,  
Albemarle

Solicits appointment as agent for collecting arrears of taxes from sheriffs in his District.

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ARTHUR CAMPBELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Feb. 23,  
Tennessee

A copy of the subjoined certificate of Captain M. Lewis was forwarded towards Richmond by the mail last December, but as there have been so many failures on that route, I now send your Excellency another copy by a safe private conveyance. I have shown to General Clarke the original paper, and would now forward it were it not that I wish to retain it for the use of the Executive of the State of Kentucky, who are situated

at a greater distance from the residence of the Discoverer than that of Virginia.

1807.  
Feb. 23,  
Tennessee

Since I wrote last, I have been in Knoxville and had a conversation on the subject with a leading character of that State. He assured me that at present, a serious dispute existed between the States of South and North Carolina on the subject of the Southern boundary of the latter, which eventually may be decided by the Superior Court of the United States. Should N. Carolina succeed in obtaining one degree and a half of Territory from South to North, and, of course, Tennessee, it will be to their interest to abandon the ten miles of excess discovered by Captain Lewis and have the same meridian distance acquired off what is now supposed to be S. Carolina, Georgia, and the Mississippi Territory, or, to express the idea more correctly, let N. Carolina have its true latitude both on its Southern and Northern limits, as expressed in its charter, and recognized in its constitutional act whether the late discovery be profitable to her or otherwise.

I suppose, Sir, you have not been made acquainted with the manner of running and marking a boundary line between Virginia and Tennessee in the year 1803. Mr. Fisk asserts that there was no regard paid to astronomical observations or the true latitude of the line; that it was an affair of compromise, and that the line marked is not a parallel, but marked in a zig-zag direction, having numerous offsets from a due west course. And the late Governor of Tennessee assures me that no plat or chart of the line have been deposited in the Secretary's office by the Surveyors in behalf of the State of Tennessee.

I am, &c.

WALLING'S, *November 23d, 1806.*

This day, in compliance with the request of certain Gentlemen, I undertook to settle the latitude of the line usually denominated *Walker's Line*, formerly dividing the States of Virginia and North Carolina. The position selected for the observation was near the habitation of a Mr. Walling, two hundred yards south of said line, and about two miles distant from Cumberland Gap. The instruments used in the observation were a Sextant on the most approved plan, with reversing Telescope for an eye piece and a good Micrometer and artificial horizon, in which water was used as the reflecting surface. With these instruments I took the meridian altitude of the Sun's lower limb and calculated the latitude; from which it appeared that the place of observation was in North latitude  $36^{\circ} 38' 12''$ . If, therefore, the Charters of the States of North Carolina and Virginia call for a parallel of latitude at  $36^{\circ} 30'$  North as a boundary between them, the line of Walker is nine miles and 1,077 yards North of its proper position.

1807.  
Feb. 23,  
Tennessee

This statement I have given to Col. Arthur Campbell, at his request, to be presented to public view in any manner he may think proper.

MERIWETHER LEWIS,  
1st U. S. Reg't Infantry.

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JOHN CONNELLY TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 2,  
Philadel-  
phia

Your letter of the 17th inst. favoured by Mr. Leiper was laid before the Board of Inspectors of our Prison, and having given it all that consideration which time and circumstances would admit, the Board unanimously agree to recommend their present Clerk, Mr. Abraham Douglass, as a person in their opinion well qualified to be the Keeper of your prison; we have found him to be a man of Talents and Integrity, having conducted himself in all things committed to his care, to the entire satisfaction of the Board. He has been our clerk for four years, and we believe acquainted with our system of Government, which we think the best to insure good order to bring into active operation the moral principles, to cherish hope that men may fear God and reverence themselves, that crimes and criminals may not increase. We have conferred with Mr. Douglass on the subject, and he agrees to take charge of your prison according to the terms proposed in your letter.

We are well aware of the sacrifice we make in parting with him, and the difficulty we may have in supplying his place, but we waive those considerations for his sake and the cause of humanity, that he may circulate those principles we have laboured to inculcate, and for which you have been pleased to compliment our Institution.

I am, &c.

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ABRAHAM DOUGLASS TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 2,  
Philadel-  
phia

Enclosed you have a recommendation from the Inspectors of the Prison of Philadelphia on my behalf, as being a person qualified to superintend the Penitentiary in Richmond. Should you conclude to give me the appointment, have the goodness to inform me as early as convenient, so that I may make arrangements to be in your city by the time required; if I succeed in getting the appointment, I have no doubt I shall give general satisfaction, and perhaps be of some service to the institution.

I am, &c.

## WM. SHARP TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your Excellency's letter of the 28th ulto. reached me yesterday requiring an immediate return of the strength of the 54th Regt. and of the number of arms now in their hands. This return is *now* impossible for me to make in consequence of the great derangement of the Reg't occasioned by the resignation of a great number of the very best of its officers (many companies not having one left) by reason of the late appointment of the Executive of an Ensign to the rank of Major. Several of the officers coming under the late law which compels them to serve five years, unless the Regimental court of Enquiry or the Executive should permit their resignation, returned their commissions to me, on which a Regimental Court of Enquiry was about to sit, but a great majority of the officers commanding Companies were with me in opinion that from the words of the Law a called Regimental Court of Enquiry could not be held, their commissions were returned, and will I presume be sent on to you.

1807.  
March 7,  
Norfolk

The commissions of several officers not coming under this law, I have received and retain, which I shall forward on to the Executive with their reasons for resigning the latter, at their request, in a short time.

As soon as possible, to get accurate returns made of the strength of the Regiment and of the arms, I will forward them to you agreeable to the tenor of your letter.

I have considered it best to say this much to your Excellency in order that the returns required may not be expected so soon as our former promptitude may have given you reason to expect.

I will only add that previous to the late appointment, I had very sanguine hopes of making the 54th Reg't honorable to the country and ourselves, but under existing circumstances I much fear the contrary, at least for some time.

I received a few days ago a Commission for Mr. Wm. Roser as second Lieutenant of Artillery—another recommendation was forwarded the mail before for the same person, his first recommendation having escaped my notice.

I am, &c.

## M. H. JORDON TO THE GOVERNOR.

By the late proceedings of yourself with council, that confidence and trust which it appears was reposed in Court of Hustings of the Borough of Norfolk and the officers of the 54th Regiment has been forfeited in some manner or other; in what manner I can not divine.

March 7,  
Norfolk

The appointment recently made by yourselves of a young Ensign to

1807.  
March 7,  
Norfolk

the command of a Battalion, when there was recommended (and the recommendation before you) from our court, an old officer and a man in every respect of as fair a character as the one appointed, a man who was acquainted with military duty, and a man the choice of all the Officers of the Regiment (except one).

Under these degrading circumstances, I can no longer with justice to myself continue in an office of any description under you. Supposing that without any hesitation, you will grant a discharge to the person you have degraded.

I am, &c.

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HANCOCK EUSTACE TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 12,  
Aquia

In compliance with advices of Council of State of the 30th January last past, I called on one of the representatives of my late predecessor (Thomas Lee, dec'd) for the purpose of adjusting the claims of the Commonwealth on him, and to ascertain if possible the amount due.

Mr. Alexander, the son-in-law of Thos. Lee, dec'd, and representative of the Executor (Mr. Ludwell Lee, of Loudoun county), requested that I would indulge him until the first Monday in this month to determine on the propriety of going into a settlement in the way proposed and pointed out in my instructions. The result of his deliberations, is a refusal to account for or be chargeable with any rents or tobacco except such as has actually been received by Thos. Lee, dec'd. This determination obliges me to beg further advice or instructions of the Council.

If the representatives of Thos. Lee are chargeable with all the rents which fell due during the agency of said Lee, I have concluded it was not necessary for me to ascertain the arrears of rent which have been due from the tenants for more than five years past. The vague manner in which the books of my late predecessor have been kept, makes it very inconvenient and almost impossible for me to collect any information as to the amount of rents due when my predecessor became the agent, the amount of rents which fell due during his agency, or the amount of rents due when his agency ceased.

I am, &c.

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JOHNSON MALLORY TO THE GOVERNOR.

March 17,  
Norfolk

Forwarding his resignation as Captain in the 54th Regiment of Militia, in the Borough of Norfolk.



ABRAHAM DOUGLASS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your letter of the 9th inst., informing me of my appointment to the office of Keeper of your Penitentiary, I received last evening, for which appointment please to accept my thanks. In reply to that part of your letter requesting a copy of all rules and regulations of this prison, I have to inform you that the printed rules have undergone some alterations, particularly those which relate to the diet of the convicts.

1807.  
March 18,  
Philadel-  
phia

Their diet now is:

At Breakfast— $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. of rye bread and a pint of molasses and water mixt, the quantity of molasses not more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a gill.

At Dinner— $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. meat, of which soup is made, and a pint of soup,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of bread (rye), and near a pint of potatoes.

At Supper—A pint of mush and a pint of molasses and water, the same as morning.

The convict women get the same allowance as that of the men, with the exception of meat and potatoes; those they receive but two days in the week.

I shall leave this city on the 22nd of this month. I will then bring with me the rules and regulations for this prison, with notes on such parts as have been amended or entirely done away.

In the expectation of being in your city by the 28th of this month, I remain,

Yours, &c.

WM. HARPER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Solicits an appointment as Lieutenant in the Public Guard, in the room of Lieut. Underwood, resigned.

March 19,  
Richmond

THOMAS UNDERWOOD TO THE GOVERNOR.

The fifteen days which you were polite enough to give me to settle my business with the Public Guard, ends this evening, at which time I am ready to deliver the clothing, books, &c., to any person you may authorize to receive them.

March 20,  
Richmond

I am, &c.

SAMUEL COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Asking that a young man who has been acting as his substitute during a spell of sickness be compensated by the public.

April 1,  
Richmond

## JOHN CLARK TO THE GOVERNOR.

1807.  
April 17,  
Man'f'y  
Arms

Stating the necessity of keeping on hand a supply of seasoned timber and extra wheels for the use of the Armory.

## ALEXANDER SPOTSWOOD TO EDMUND RANDOLPH.

April 20,  
Newport

Your favor of the 19th Inst. came safe to hand. Inclosed I send you an order on the Clerk of the Council for the manuscript Books of my grandfather's correspondence with the British Ministry, &c., during the time he presided as the Governor of Virginia (then a colony), and certain I am that you'll find them on perusal to give more information of what was then the State of Virginia and North Carolina than what you have any Idea of, and when you consider these times, you'll pronounce them elegant letters.

I am, &c.

*To the Clerk of the Council of the State of Virginia:*

SIR—The two manuscript Books (my property) placed in your care by a resolution of the Virginia House of Delegates, written by Governor Spotswood to the British Ministry, and subject to my order, you please to deliver to Edmund Randolph, Esq'r, taking his receipt for the same.

Am your most,

ALEX'R SPOTSWOOD.

Rece'd the above April 23d, 1807.

EDM'D RANDOLPH.

## THOMAS PRESTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 20,  
Lexington

Asking permission to have a piece of cannon at Staunton remounted and assigned to the use of his company at Lexington, and soliciting arms and accoutrements for the same.

## WILLIAM LINDSAY TO THE GOVERNOR.

April 20,  
Norfolk

Having accidentally seen a letter from you to Col. Sharp on the subject of the ferment excited here by my appointment, I cannot refrain from expressing my acknowledgments to you for the prompt and manly manner in which you vindicate me and assert the ground which you have taken in my appointment. I have all along thought it unnecessary to say anything to any of my friends in the Executive on the subject of

this ferment, as I knew they were men not to be driven from their purpose by any such senseless clamours.

1807.  
April 20,  
Norfolk

The event has fully justified my belief. Permit me to assure you of my respect.

I am, &c.

---

THOMAS RITCHIE TO THE GOVERNOR.

The accompanying valuable papers were (last year) put into my possession by Major Duvall (acting Executive of Mr. Wythe), and I was by him requested to have them deposited among the archives of the Council. I do myself the peculiar pleasure of transmitting them to *you* for this purpose.

April 25

I am, &c.

[The above-mentioned papers were not found.—ED.]

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WM. MOSELEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Enclosing his official Bond, dated January 7th, 1807, in the penalty of One Million of Dollars, with Rich'd Crump and Tho. Miller as securities. Asking leave of absence for a sea voyage of a few weeks on account of ill-health.

April 29,  
Treasury  
Office

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MILES KING TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding his resignation as Lieutenant in the 54th Regiment of Militia in the Borough of Norfolk.

April 30,  
Norfolk

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Return of Captain Wm. Moseley's Company of Riflemen of 1st Battalion, 102 Regiment of militia acknowledging themselves enlisted for five years.

1 Captain; 1 Lieutenant; 1 Ensign; 4 Sergeants, 29 Rank and file; 36 Total.

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H. BEATTY TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms and accoutrements for the Troops of cavalry of Captain Ebben Taylor and Lieutenant Bonam.

May 5,  
Winchester

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The official bond of Abraham Douglass as keeper of the Penitentiary of Virginia, at Richmond, in the penalty of two thousand dollars, dated May 16th, 1807, is lodged.

May 16

## JOHN CROPPER, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

1807.  
May 20,  
Accomac

Solicits an appointment as Commissioner of Wrecks for Accomack county in the room of John Teakle, who proposes to remove from the county.

## ROBERT GAMBLE TO THE GOVERNOR.

May 26,  
Richmond

The enclosed letter from Col. Cropper will sufficiently explain the object of its being laid before the Honorable the Council for their consideration and advising thereon.

Col. Cropper's conduct during the Revolutionary war against Great Britain was excelled by few, if any. The distresses experienced by the citizens of the Eastern Shore from the predatory war carried on by the British and their adherents, induced General Washington (when the Virginia Line marched to Charleston) to assign to him the duty of making the best defence and protection circumstances and means in his power admitted.

Many contests with Barges and other small vessells ensued, in which the people under Col. Cropper was enabled to repel and rid themselves in a great measure from the intolerable and vexatious incursions they had suffered.

I mention this part of Col. Cropper's service to his Country, as a matter extra from his active exertions in the army untill the year 1779, inclusive, Northwardly; which probably may not be within the knowledge of the Executive.

Col. Cropper, doubtless, deservedly has the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens and of all who value an upright and useful man.

I am, &c.

May 30

At the fire which took place at the Penitentiary on the 19th of this month, Hartwell Leath, one of the prisoners, used every exertion in his power to extinguish the same. When I directed him (and three other prisoners) to break through the brick arch (being the only means of getting to the roof) they complied with the utmost cheerfulness; after the breach was made, Leath was the first man through the aperture. I then directed them to break a hole through the roof and get on it as soon as possible, not knowing exactly the part of the roof which was burning, they broke the first hole through that part which was on fire, and Leath, regardless of danger, leaped through the midst of it. He has been during his confinement, an orderly and industrious prisoner.

AR'M DOUGLASS,  
Keeper Penitentiary.

May 30th, 1807.

Commonwealth of Virginia for Armory,

	To Penitentiary Manufactories,	Dr.	1807. May 26
For 355 pair Holsters and sword belts made between 1st April and 31st May, 1807, inclusive, at 26s. 3d.,	- -	\$1,553 12	
For 472 Cartridge boxes made during same period at 7s. 6d. ea.,	- - - - -	590 00	
		<hr/>	
		\$2,143 12	

WM. NASH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for a Rifle Company raised by Capt. Lee, of the 95th Regiment of Militia. June 8,  
Norfolk Co.

THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

I do myself the honor to enclose your Excellency a copy of my letter addressed to the Secretary of State in consequence of an occurrence that took place off our capes yesterday. June 23,  
Norfolk

This event will make it necessary that I should receive instructions from your Excellency for my government.

I am, &c.

The Governor and Council will hear by this mail of the capture of the Chesapeake, Commodore Barron, having killed and wounded 25 of his men, and after boarding and taking from the Frigate 4 men whom they claimed, suffered her to seek what destination she pleased.

This note is to request to know whether it will be proper to suffer their ships to water at this place. There are two vessels now loaded, which will be detained until we have your advice.

Hampton, 23rd June, 1807.

N. B.—You will be good enough to direct your note of advice to Col. Geo. Wray.

THOMAS MATHEWS TO HON. JAMES MADISON, SECRETARY OF STATE.

An occurrence took place yesterday off our capes (between six and ten miles) which I hold it my duty to make known to the Government. June 23,  
Norfolk

The Chesapeake sailed from Hampton Roads yesterday, for her destination. At the distance before mentioned, she was boarded by an officer from the British ship Leopard, rated at fifty Guns, and a demand made

1807.  
June 23,  
Norfolk

of certain seamen. Captain Barron refused to deliver up any man or to permit any search. The British officer immediately returned to his ship, when a severe cannonade commenced on the part of the *Leopard*, without giving any previous notice of such intention.

Unexpected as this attack was by Capt. Barron, immediate resistance was made, and the engagement continued from 30 to 45 minutes, when from the superior force and the disadvantages arising from such an unexpected rencontre, Capt. Barron, after being wounded in both his legs, was compelled to *strike his colours*. Three men killed and nineteen wounded on board the *Chesapeake*.

This account I received personally from the surgeon's mate of the *Chesapeake*, who arrived here within an hour, with twelve of the wounded men. The British, after the American colours were struck, boarded the *Chesapeake* and took four men from her. They refused to have anything to do with the ship, and the officers were compelled, for the sake of humanity and their own preservation, to bring the ship into Hampton Roads. The *Chesapeake* is greatly damaged.

I am, &c.

LEDGER OFFICE,  
*Norfolk, June 24th, 1807.*

June 24,  
Norfolk

We are now to present to our readers the details of a most unexamplified outrage, in the perpetration of which the blood of our countrymen has been shed by the hand of violence, and the honor and independence of our nation insulted beyond the possibility of further forbearance.

At a very early hour yesterday morning a report reached this place which produced a degree of agitation beyond anything we ever witnessed or can attempt to describe.

It was reported that on the preceeding evening the *Chesapeake Frigate*, which had gone to sea that morning, had been attacked by the British ship *Leopard*, Capt. Humphries, of 50 Guns, and that the *Chesapeake* had struck her colours. Altho' the source from whence this information was derived was not such as to deserve the highest consideration, yet it was stated in that way, and attended with such circumstances, as left but little hope that it was not true. Accordingly every vessel or boat from the Capes was boarded with great anxiety, and which was not relieved until about two o'clock, when pointed information was received that the *Chesapeake* was returning to Hampton Roads without shewing any colours.

About 4 o'clock all doubt was relieved by a spectacle which was calculated, and did not fail, to rouse the indignation of every American present, and we trust that it will never subside until ample satisfaction has been made. Eleven of our wounded fellow-citizens arrived in a boat

dispatched from the Chesapeake, and now we learn the following particulars, which we believe are correct:

1807.  
June 21,  
Norfolk  
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The Chesapeake Frigate, Captain Gordon, under Commodore James Barron, got under way on Monday morning, and proceeded to sea, passing the Capes about 12 o'clock.

At 9 o'clock the Leopard, by signal from the Commodore's ship, had got under way and stood out to sea. About 3 o'clock the Chesapeake and Leopard approached, when the customary signal of firing a gun to leeward, the signal for friends, was made from both ships. Being about 3 leagues from the land, the ships came within hail, when the commander of the Leopard hailed he hoped Commodore Barron was well, and informed him that he had dispatches for the Commodore.

The ships hove to, and a boat came on board the Chesapeake with a letter from Captain Humphries. In this letter was a copy of one from Admiral Berkeley, at Halifax, to all the British commanders on this station, in which they were ordered to demand from the commander of the Chesapeake, four British seamen named in the letter, and that if they were not delivered by fair means to use force. Captain Humphries stated in his letter that as Commodore Barron would perceive that his orders were peremptory he hoped that he would not oblige him to execute them by force. Commodore Barron returned an answer to this letter, in which he stated that the orders of his Government forbid him to permit his vessel to be searched or to deliver a man from her. The boat from the Leopard had no sooner returned on board than a gun from her was fired ahead of the Chesapeake, and instantly followed by a broad-side from the Leopard, accompanied by swivels and small arms. Six other broad-sides followed—the two ships then within pistol shot.

On board the Chesapeake all was astonishment. The ship was unprepared for action, no man at his quarters, and some of the officers at dinner. In this situation Commodore Barron hailed the Leopard repeatedly without effect; he then ordered the colours to be struck; as this was doing, a gun from the Chesapeake was fired, upon which the Leopard fired another broadside. The colours being now down an officer was dispatched to the Chesapeake, who on coming on board expressed some regret on behalf of his commander for what had happened. He was received with great indignation by the American officers, who tendered their swords, which he refused, saying that he wanted the four men and nothing more, and demanded the muster roll, which was produced by the Purser, and then was exhibited the degrading spectacle of nearly four hundred Americans mustered on the deck of an American man-of-war by order of a British Lieutenant, and four of the crew taken away.

The Lieutenant said he was desired to make Commodore Barron an offer of any services in the power of his commander. It would be needless to say in what manner such an offer was received; it was considered

1807.  
June 24.  
Norfolk

an aggravation of the outrage which had been perpetrated. The British officer, refusing to consider the Chesapeake as a prize, departed, informing Commodore Barron that he was at liberty to proceed whither he pleased.

The Commodore returned to Hampton Roads, as before stated. We are sorry to add to this account that three of the crew were killed and sixteen wounded, some of them dangerously. Commodore Barron was slightly wounded in the leg, and one Midshipman. The ship is greatly injured in her hull, masts and rigging, and must be repaired before she can go to sea. Such are the details of this affair, which we believe are substantially correct, being mostly furnished by a gentleman who was on board the Chesapeake last evening.

It is impossible that on such an occasion, there can be but one sentiment in the heart of every American. The independence of our country has been attacked, and in defending it our fellow-citizens have been killed. Submission to the demand made on Commodore Barron could not have been made without relinquishing our right as an independent nation.

Every national ship is considered as a part of the nation's territory. As well might the Government of Great Britain instruct her officers to land in our country and assume the right of punishing those who have offended her laws, as to enter our ships of war for the same purpose. This is not the act of a rash, imprudent commander, but of an officer acting in execution of the deliberate orders of his superior officers, if not of the highest authority of the British Government, and we shall state our reasons for so thinking.

In the month of March, the Halifax sloop-of-war, commanded by Lord Townsend, was lying in Hampton Roads, and one of her boats, with four men and a petty officer, was sent on some duty. Being out of the reach of the guns of the Halifax, or being unobserved, the men rose upon the officer, and once threatened to throw him overboard; this, however, they did not do, but pulled for the shore, which they reached, and proceeded to this place, where they entered with an officer then engaged in the enlistment of men for the Chesapeake. A formal demand was made to have them delivered up. The civil authorities refused to interfere, and the officer who had enlisted them, did not think himself authorized to deliver them without orders from his superiors. The case was represented at Washington, but what passed there on the subject we know not. The men were not delivered up, and were believed to be on board the Chesapeake. We are confident that a representation of the case was made to the British Government, whose orders, we apprehend, were to take the men wherever they were to be found. Our readers will be informed that the Leopard arrived here only a few days since, and orders of the Admiral at Halifax to take the men at all under any circumstances. It may be objected that there has



## RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITIZENS

not been time to hear from England since the announcement respecting the Halifax meeting, which we think was about the 4th or 5th of March, but we know that answers to letters written to London as late as the 21st of March have been received here. However this may be, the Captain of the Leopard has acted under the orders of his superiors, and as such the act claims the serious attention and consideration of the people and government of this country. It is an indignation to see that the men could have been surrendered in the first instance. We shall not stop to examine that subject now, but wherever matters of dispute between nations are settled, it turns out that it is war, more than that, is something worse, one of the nations is dishonest & selfish, when trust and belief is put the case with the United States. It is an established usage the nations who are not determined upon hostilities, to seek redress by negotiation, and certainly America has pursued that course with Britain on many occasions. If the act there is to be referred to the British Government, there is an end of all further negotiation on the subject, and war must be the result. Certainly as we always have anticipated war with that country, conscious as we are that our country will experience infinite distress, we look upon it as degrading beyond our tempt if we are to submit to such insult. No, we think that there will be but one heart and one hand in supporting the just rights and the honour of our country.

If the act has not proceeded from the Government of England, but is the act of the Admiral, we persuade ourselves that our Government will not want the unanimous support of its citizens in pursuing measures to the obtention of ample satisfaction.

We cannot close these remarks without noticing the manly and dignified conduct of the citizens of this place under this trying occasion. Exhibiting that cool but firm countenance which is the true indication of determined courage, no act of violence was committed or intemperate expression used towards British subjects, who happen to be here at this time; and it would be an act of injustice to the latter, if we did not add that, from everything we could hear and see, they were penetrated with the deepest concern upon the occasion.

THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding copy of Resolutions of a meeting of the citizens of Norfolk and Portsmouth relative to the attack of the British ship Leopard on the U. S. Frigate Chesapeake.

June 24  
Norfolk

At a meeting of the citizens of the Borough of Norfolk and Town of Portsmouth, held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, the 24th of June, 1807—

1807.  
June 25,  
Norfolk

General Thomas Mathews unanimously called to the chair; Samuel Moseley appointed Secretary to the meeting.

The meeting, after due consideration, came to the following Resolutions:

Whereas the Government of our Country has constantly manifested an ardent inclination for the preservation of peace, and to secure that friendly disposition which might reasonably be expected from the justice of foreign nations (if such a sentiment as that of justice was to be found among them); and whereas we as individuals seriously deprecate the horrors of war and view it as one of the greatest evils which can befall our country, but when we behold our Fellow-Citizens impressed and forced by a tyrannical and arbitrary power to fight against their own country, and basely and insidiously murdered on our coasts, it becomes necessary at this awful crisis to be prepared to meet the consequences which such conduct and such inclinations give reasonable cause to expect—to discipline ourselves and be in readiness to take up arms in defence of those sacred rights which our forefathers purchased with their blood, and until our Government shall have been informed of the glaring violation of our rights and our sovereignty in the unwarrantable and unprovoked attack upon the United States Frigate Chesapeake, Commodore Barron, within a few miles of our coast, by the British squadron composed of the Bellona, Commodore Douglas, the Triumph, Captain Hardy, the Leopard, Capt. Humphries, and the Melampus, Captain Hawker, acting under orders of Commodore Douglas, and the inhuman murder of a number of our Fellow-Citizens in the attempt of the Leopard to carry those orders into effect; therefore,

Resolved, unanimously, That all communication with the British ships of war now within our waters and on our coasts, and with their Agents or Agents among us, be discontinued, and that we will use our best exertions to prevent all such intercourse, and that all persons guilty thereof shall be deemed infamous.

Resolved, unanimously, That we will view with abhorrence any attempt at such communication, and deem any person or persons enemies to our country who shall directly or indirectly hold such intercourse, or render any aid or assistance to the British ships of war by supplying them with provisions or necessaries of any kind whatever until the decision of our Government be known.

Resolved, unanimously, In order the better to effect the above purpose, that a committee be appointed to correspond with the inhabitants of the neighboring counties, and those of the waters of Elizabeth River and the sea coast, notifying the flagrant outrage that has been committed and the measures passed by us, and recommending similar measures to their consideration.

Resolved, unanimously, That our Fellow-Citizens, the Pilots of the

Chesapeake Bay and Hampton, whose patriotism we hold in the highest estimation, are requested by this meeting to discontinue entirely their professional services to all British ships of war.

1807.  
June 25,  
Norfolk

Resolved, unanimously, That we view this unprovoked, piratical, savage, and assassin-like attack upon the Chesapeake, with that horror and detestation which should always attend a violation of the faith of nations and the laws of war, and we pledge our lives and our properties to co-operate with the Government in any measures which they may adopt, whether of vengeance or retaliation.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Mayor of this Borough be requested to call upon the Lieut.-Col. Commandant of the Militia, to hold in readiness an armed force for the purposes of defence and for carrying these resolutions into effect.

Resolved, unanimously, That these resolutions be extended to all British ships of war which may hereafter anchor within our ports till complete restitution is made to our Government for this detestible outrage on the Chesapeake.

Resolved, unanimously, That a subscription be opened and left in the possession of the Chairman, to raise a fund to be applied to the relief of the wounded and the families of the killed on board the Chesapeake, under the direction of the Superintendent of the Hospital, the Mayor of the Borough of Norfolk, and Richard Blow, Esq., of Portsmouth.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Committee be requested to correspond with the Inhabitants of the principal seaports, and endeavor, as far as in their power, to obtain their consent to these resolutions so far as effectually to withhold all supplies to any British armed vessel on the coast of the U. S. until ample justice is obtained by our Executive.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Superintendent of the Hospital, in the event of the death of any of the unfortunate mariners of the Chesapeake now under his care, report the same to the Committee, who shall from the funds subscribed, defray the expense of the funeral, and the said Committee are hereby instructed to invite their fellow-citizens to attend and to make the necessary arrangements.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Collector be requested to furnish one of the Revenue Cutters to watch over and prevent any communication with any of his B. M. ships, and that the commandant of the Fort be requested to co-operate with this measure.

Resolved, unanimously, That copies of the proceedings of this meeting be transmitted by the chairman to the President of the U. S. and the Governor of Virginia, and that they be published in the newspapers of this Borough.

Resolved, unanimously, That citizens of Norfolk, Portsmouth, and their vicinities be requested to wear a crape for ten days as a testimonial of their respect for the memory of those persons on board the Ches-

1807.  
June 25,  
Norfolk

peake who have fallen victims to British tyranny and pre assassination.

Resolved, unanimously, That this meeting approves and conduct of our fellow-citizens of Hampton, in destroying the w belonging to the British frigate Melampus, highly laudable ar worthy.

Resolved, unanimously, That Thomas Mathews (chairman Newton, Jun'r, Luke Wheeler, Theo. Armistead, Richard E. I Myers, Wm. Pennock, Wm. Newsum, Thomas Blanchard, Dan ger, Seth Foster, J. W. Murdaugh, Richard Blow, and Francis be a committee to carry the foregoing resolutions into effect.

Resolved, unanimously, That this meeting tender thanks to ( Mathews for his able discharge of the duties of the chair.

Signed: THOMAS M  
Teste: SAM. MOSELEY, Sc'ty.

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SPEEVEY WYATT TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 25,  
Portsmouth

Soliciting arms for the 7th Regiment of Militia of Norfolk &

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THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 26,  
Norfolk

The commanding officer of the British Squadron off our added insult to the injury they have committed against our nat town was greatly irritated at the appearance of a British I belonging to the Squadron said to be charged with dispatch British Consul. Such was the spirit manifested by the people, zeal was with difficulty restrained from closely confining the c his party, or (what was probable) proceeding to greater leng exertions of the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen induced the permit him to depart unmolested. I congratulate your Exce the spirit displayed on the occasion, and the happy termina The experiment will not be made by any of them in haste.

Permit me to remind your Excellency that the arms for the this part of the State has become more necessary than was, an are without ammunition.

I am, &c.

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LEROY ANDERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

June 26,  
Williams-  
burg

Forwarding Resolutions of a public meeting of citizens of burg relative to the firing on the Frigate Chesapeake by the B of war Leopard.

MORD. COOKE, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding Resolutions of a public meeting of the citizens of Portsmouth, relative to arming the Militia of Portsmouth and providing a supply of ammunition, on account of the conduct of the British ship Leopard. 1807.  
June 27,  
Portsmouth

WM. BROUGH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Forwarding Resolutions of a public meeting of the citizens of Hampton, relative to the conduct of the British ship Leopard. June 28,  
Hampton

THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 25th. Since my letter of the same date, nothing material has transpired. Reports are various, but not such as can be depended on, that the British commander threatens to procure by force the necessaries he may stand in need of. The unanimous resolution of the citizens of this and the neighboring counties, prohibiting intercourse and supplies, may probably induce them to carry their threats into execution. Indeed I am apprehensive that the zeal of the citizens will suffer no opportunity to escape them of avenging themselves on their enemies. I admired their spirit, and shall use my influence to prevent them from committing their country by any rash or imprudent conduct. June 29

It is impossible for me to describe to your Excellency the zeal that animates every breast. All orders are of one mind.

I now take the liberty to inform your Excellency that in conformity with the resolution of the committee of this place, aided by the necessity of the case, I have at the public expense engaged Capt. Williams' pilot boat to attend your Excellency for the purpose of receiving such arms and ammunition as you may think proper to afford us in the present emergency. I can only say that they are much wanted, that the greater part of the neighboring counties are without either, and the difficulty of being supplied, must be too obvious to need any remark from me.

Fifteen hundred or two thousand stand of arms, &c., can be well disposed of, and if your Excellency can spare us two or four brass sixes and nines, with travelling carriages, ball, &c., they can be used in case of necessity to great advantage. It has been impossible to procure the returns from the different Regiments in a state that would be satisfactory either to your Excellency or myself. I shall, therefore, account for such arms as may be forwarded.

I am, &c.

1807.  
July 1

Resolutions expressing the indignation and determination of the people of Virginia at the unjustifiable outrage committed by the British commander of the ship *Leopard* upon the United States Frigate *Chesapeake* in Hampton Roads, on the 22nd day of June, 1807, sent from the following additional counties and towns, are on file, and can be found in the package of July, 1807, viz:

Powhatan. Loudoun, King William and King and Queen Troop, Wood Port Royall, Gloucester, Albemarle, Louisa, Isle of Wight, Mathews Essex, Montgomery, King and Queen, Fauquier, Charlotte, Prince Edward, New Kent, Southampton, Rockbridge, Cumberland, Augusta Fairfax, King William, Bent Creek, Rumford Academy, Middlesex Smithfield, Dinwiddie, Charles City, Floyd county, Ky., Nansemond Lancaster, Franklin.

#### JAMES MADISON TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 2,  
Washington,  
Department  
of State

I have the honor to enclose by direction of the President, a Proclamation issued by him of this date, and to remain, with great consideration and respect,

Yours, &c.

*By Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States of America—A Proclamation.*

During the wars which, for some time, have unhappily prevailed among the powers of Europe, the United States of America, firm in their principles of peace, have endeavored by justice, by a regular discharge of their national and social duties, and by every friendly office their situation has admitted, to maintain with all belligerents their accustomed relations of friendship, hospitality, and commercial intercourse. Taking no part in the questions which animate these powers against each other nor permitting themselves to entertain a wish but for the restoration of general peace, they have observed with good faith the neutrality they assumed, and they believe that no instance of a departure from its duties can be justly imputed to them by any nation.

A free use of their harbours and waters, the means of refitting and refreshment, of succour to their sick and suffering, have at all times, and on equal principles, been extended to all, and this, too, amidst a constant recurrence of acts of insubordination to the laws, of violence to the persons, and of trespasses on the property of our citizens committed by officers of one of the belligerent parties received among us. In truth these abuses of the laws of hospitality have, with few exceptions, become habitual to the commanders of the British armed vessels hovering on our coasts and frequenting our harbours.

They have been the subject of repeated representations to their gov-

ernment. Assurances have been given that proper orders should restrain them within the limit of the rights and of the respect belonging to a friendly nation, but those orders and assurances have been without effect; no instance of punishment for past wrongs has taken place. At length a deed transcending all we have hitherto seen or suffered, brings the public sensibility to a serious crisis and our forbearance to a necessary pause. A frigate of the United States, trusting to a state of peace, and leaving the harbour on a distant service, has been surprised and attacked by a British vessel of superior force, one of a squadron then lying in our waters and covering the transaction, and has been disabled from service, with the loss of a number of men killed and wounded. This enormity was not only without provocation or justifiable cause, but was committed with the avowed purpose of taking by force from a ship of war of the United States a part of her crew, and that no circumstance might be wanting to mark its character, it had been previously ascertained that the seamen demanded, were native citizens of the United States. Having effected her purpose, the vessel returned to anchor with her squadron within our jurisdiction. Hospitality under such circumstances ceases to be a duty, and a continuance of it with such uncontrolled abuses would tend only by multiplying injuries and irritations, to bring on a rupture between the two nations. This extreme resort is equally opposed to the interests of both, as it is to assurances of the most friendly dispositions on the part of the British Government, in the midst of which this outrage has been committed. In this light the subject cannot but present itself to that government and strengthen the motives to an honorable reparation of the wrong which has been done, and to that effectual control of its naval commanders, which alone can justify the Government of the United States in the exercise of those hospitalities it is now constrained to discontinue.

In consideration of these circumstances and of the right of every nation to regulate its own police, to provide for its peace and for the safety of its citizens, and consequently to refuse the admission of armed vessels into its harbors or waters, either in such numbers or of such descriptions as are inconsistent with these, or with the maintenance of the authority of the laws, I have thought proper, in pursuance of the authorities specially given by law, to issue this my Proclamation, hereby requiring all armed vessels bearing commissions under the Government of Great Britain, now within the harbors or waters of the United States, immediately and without delay to depart from the same, and interdicting the entrance of all the harbors and waters to the said armed vessels, and to all others bearing commissions under the authority of the British Government.

And if the said vessels, or any of them, shall fail to depart as aforesaid, or if they, or any others so interdicted, shall hereafter enter the harbors

1807.  
July 2,  
Washington,  
Department  
of State

1807.  
July 2,  
Washington,  
Department  
of State

or waters aforesaid, I do in that case forbid all intercourse with them or any of them, their officers or crews, and do prohibit all supplies and aid from being furnished to them or any of them.

And I do declare and make known, that if any person from or within the jurisdictional limits of the United States shall afford any aid to any such vessel, contrary to the prohibition contained in this Proclamation, either in repairing such vessel, or in furnishing her, her officers or crew, with supplies of any kind, or in any manner whatsoever, or if any pilot shall assist in navigating any of the said armed vessels, unless it be for the purpose of carrying them in the first instance beyond the limits and jurisdiction of the United States, or unless it be in the case of a vessel forced by distress, or charged with public dispatches, as hereinafter provided for, such person or persons shall, on conviction, suffer all the pains and penalties by the laws provided for such offences.

And I do hereby enjoin and require all persons bearing office, civil or military, within or under the authority of the United States, and all others, citizens or inhabitants thereof, or being within the same, with vigilance and promptitude to exert their respective authorities, and to be aiding and assisting in carrying this Proclamation and every part thereof into full effect.

Provided, nevertheless, that if any such vessel shall be forced into the harbors or waters of the United States by distress, by the dangers of the sea, or by the pursuit of an enemy, or shall enter them charged with dispatches or business from their government, or shall be a public packet for the conveyance of letters and dispatches, the commanding officer immediately reporting his vessel to the Collector of the District, stating the object or causes of entering said harbors or waters, and conforming himself to the regulations in that case prescribed under the authority of the laws, shall be allowed the benefit of such regulations respecting repairs, supplies, stay, intercourse and departure as shall be permitted under the same authority.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents and signed the same.

Given at the City of Washington the second day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven, and of the sovereignty and independence of the United States the thirty-first.

TH. JEFFERSON.

By the President:

JAS. MADISON, Secretary of State.

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THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 4,  
Norfolk

I take the liberty of enclosing you a copy of a Letter transmitted by Commodore Douglas, of the British Squadron, to the Mayor of the Bor-



ough of Norfolk. In consequence of this Letter, the Mayor has made application to me to prepare for the protection of our fellow-citizens by holding all the armed men of my Brigade in readiness for immediate service. I have accordingly issued orders to that effect, and shall act as circumstances shall make necessary, until I shall receive the orders of Government.

1807.  
July 4,  
Norfolk

I have forwarded a copy of Douglas' Letter to the Secretary of War.

I am, &c.

P. S.—The answer of the Mayor is also forwarded.

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RICHARD E. LEE (MAYOR) TO THE GOVERNOR.

Enclosed I send you a copy of a correspondence which has lately taken place between Commodore Douglas and myself on the subject of the differences which have lately occurred.

July 4,  
Norfolk

Mr. Archer is the Bearer of this express, and from the terms of the correspondence you will see the necessity of an early attention to the subject. The militia of this section of the Country are almost defenceless, and from the temper manifested by Commodore Douglas, I have no reason to doubt that he will endeavour to carry his threats into execution.

Your Excellency will be convinced from these circumstances, of the necessity of furnishing arms as soon as possible.

I am, &c.

Correspondence not found among the papers, but the following extracts from the Executive Journal of July 4th, 1807, pp. 121 and 22, supply the loss.—ED.:

HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP BELLONA,  
*Hampton Roads, July 3d, 1807.*

SIR:

I beg leave to represent to you that having observed in the newspaper a resolution made by a committee on the 29th ult., prohibiting any communication between his Britannic Majesty's Consul at Norfolk and his ships lying at anchor in Lynhaven Bay; and this being a measure extremely hostile, not only in depriving the British Consul from discharging the duties of his office, but at the same time preventing me from obtaining that information so absolutely necessary for his Majesty's service, I am therefore determined, if this infringement is not immediately annulled, to prohibit every vessel bound in or out of Norfolk to proceed to their destination until I know the pleasure of my Government or the commander-in-chief on this station. Your must be perfectly aware that the British flag never has, or never will be insulted with

1807.  
July 4,  
Norfolk

impunity. You must also be aware that it has been, and is still, in my power to obstruct the whole trade of the Chesapeake since the late circumstance, which I desisted from, trusting that general unanimity would be restored. Respecting the circumstances of the deserters lately apprehended from the United States frigate Chesapeake, in my opinion, must be decided by the two Governments alone.

It therefore rests with the inhabitants of Norfolk either to engage in a war, or remain in terms of peace. Agreeable to my intentions, I have proceeded to Hampton Roads with the Squadron under my command to await your answer, which I trust you will favour me without delay.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obed't Serv't,

Signed: J. E. DOUGLAS.

I enclose you two letters to the British Consul at Norfolk, which you will be pleased to forward him.

J. E. D.

To which the Mayor of Norfolk returned the following answer:

NORFOLK, *July 4th, 1807.*

SIR:

I have received your menacing letter of yesterday this moment. The day on which this answer is written, ought of itself to suffice to prove to the subjects of your sovereign that the American people are not to be intimidated by menace or induced to adopt any measures except by a sense of their perfect propriety. Seduced by the false shew of sincerity, they may be sometimes surprised, and slaughtered while unprepared to resist a supposed friend; that delusive security however is now passed forever—the late occurrence has taught us to confide our safety no longer to any thing but to our own force. We do not seek hostility nor shall we avoid it. We are prepared for the worst which you may attempt, and will do whatever shall be judged proper to repel force, whensoever your efforts shall render any acts of ours necessary—thus much for the threats of your letter, which can be considered in no other light than as addressed to the supposed fears of our citizens.

In answer to that part of it which is particularly addressed to me as the first judicial officer of this Borough, I have but to say, that you must be aware that the judiciary of no country possesses any other powers than those conferred upon them by the laws.

The same channels through which you have derived the intelligence stated by yourself, must also have announced to you that the act of which you complain is an act of individuals and not of the Government. If this act be very wrong and illegal, the judiciary of this country whenever the case is properly brought before it, will take care to do its duty; at

present they have no judicial information of any outrage on their laws and therefore cannot act.

1807.  
July 4,  
Norfolk

If you Sir, please to consider this act of individuals as a measure "expressly hostile," and shall commence hostility without waiting the decision of our two Governments, (although you yourself acknowledge that it properly belongs to them alone to decide,) the inhabitants of Norfolk will conform to your example and protect themselves against any lawless aggression which may be made upon their persons or property—they therefore leave it with you either to "engage in war or to remain in terms of peace" until the pleasure of our respective Governments shall be known.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your most obed't Serv't,

RICHARD EVERS LEE,  
Mayor of the Borough of Norfolk.

## II. DEARBORN, SECRETARY OF WAR, TO THE GOVERNOR.

The President of the United States has directed me to call upon the Executives of the several States, to take effectual measures to organize, arm, and equip according to law, and hold in readiness to march at a moments warning their respective proportions of one hundred thousand militia, officers included, by virtue of an act of Congress, passed on the 18th day of April, 1806, intitled "an act authorizing a detachment from the militia of the United States." This therefore is to require of your Excellency to take effectual measures for having eleven thousand five hundred and sixty-three of the militia of Virginia, (being her quota) detached and duly organized in Companies, Battalions, Regiments, Brigades, and Divisions, within the shortest period that circumstances will permit, and as nearly as practicable in the following proportions of Artillery, Cavalry, and Infantry, viz.:

July 6,  
War  
Department

One-twentieth part of Artillery, one-tenth part Cavalry and the residue Infantry. There will however be no objection on the part of the President of the United States, to the admission of a proportion of Riflemen duly organized in distinct corps, and not exceeding one-tenth part of the whole quota of the States respectively. Each corps should be properly armed and equipped for actual service. Any companies of volunteers who previous to orders for taking the field, may tender their services conformably to the second section of the aforesaid act, or to an act of Congress, (a copy of which is enclosed) passed on the 24th day of February, 1807, intitled "an act authorizing the President of the U. States to accept the services of a number of volunteer companies not exceeding thirty thousand men," will be considered as a part of the aforesaid quota of eleven thousand

1776  
July 4  
War  
Department five hundred and sixty-three according to their numbers. And from the well known patriotism of our fellow citizens, it must be presumed that under the existing circumstances of our country, a large proportion of the youth of the several States will be composed of such volunteer corps, especially as they will undoubtedly meet with every encouragement from your Excellency and from all other patriotic influential characters.

When the detachment and organizations shall have been effected, the respective corps will be exercised under the officers set over them; but will not remain imbedded or be considered as in actual service, until by subsequent orders they shall be directed to take the field. Your Excellency will please to direct that current muster rolls and inspection returns be made of the several corps; and that copies thereof be transmitted to this department as early as possible.

I am, &c.

JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 6,  
Capitol Advising that an express be dispatched to City Point to order Captain Woodward in charge of State arms to land the same at Smithfield to prevent their possible capture by English vessels.

S. G. TUCKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 6 Should it be deemed expedient to establish a correspondence by the Telegraph between Norfolk and Hampton, I would take pleasure in offering the model of one on a very simple construction, with a suitable alphabet, which I prepared some years ago on hearing first of their use in France.

I am, &c.

LITT. W. TAZEWELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 6,  
Norfolk A few days since a letter was received by the Mayor of this Borough from the Commodore of the British Squadron here, a copy of which I presume has been transmitted to you or has been seen by you in the public Gazettes printed here. To this letter a reply was written which I conjecture must also have reached you through one or the other of those channels—at the request of the Magistrates, I undertook to deliver this answer to the British commander which I yesterday did. The substance of his conversation with me is stated in the enclosed copy of my communication to the Mayor made upon my return. As this information

1807.  
July 6,  
Norfolk

may be of importance to the Government in the measures which they may be disposed to adopt, I have taken the liberty of forwarding it to you by the first conveyance. I will add Sir, that notwithstanding the conciliatory language held by the British officers while I was on board their Squadrons, yet I witnessed several circumstances which induce a belief that their professions are not sincere. When I went on board, the ships were all riding to a single anchor short apeak, prepared to have moved at an instant. The upper deck guns of the *Bellona* (the headmost ship) were all turned forward out of their ordinary position so as to command perfectly the channel of Elizabeth River at its mouth, which could not have been done except for this manner of their pointing.

The wind fortunately was at south-east, which effectually prevented their approaching Norfolk, or the shipping in the River. When I left them however all these appearances were changed.

I ought also to state that Capt. Hardy of the *Triumph* declared, that altho' as an officer he should unquestionably obey any orders which his commander might give him, yet as an individual he would say that he did not at present believe that the orders of Admiral Berkeley were sanctioned by his government.

It is not for me Sir, to draw inferences from anything here stated, that I submit to yourself. I may be permitted to observe however, that a thousand minute and seemingly unimportant occurrences which it would be too tedious to detail, strongly excite my suspicions that no confidence is to be placed in any professions or assurances which may be received from the officers of this Squadron while they remain in our waters—and therefore that no relaxation should be made in our preparations for the worst of consequences.

While speaking to you of the present alarming state our country as it is threatened by a foreign foe, I will take the liberty of adding some remarks upon another subject.

The committees which are every where forming through the State, were established originally for purposes highly valuable and for objects in which all will concur. At present however, if I may judge from the appearance of things here, it is very probable mischief may occur from the acts of impudence into which a laudable zeal may hurry them—while they confine themselves to mere declarations of public feelings and public sentiment; while they endeavor to rouse the people to a proper sense of the outrage which has been committed upon them, they will be valuable. But when from mere expression of opinions they proceed to the performance of acts—to the ordaining of measures which nothing but the officers of the law either civil or military should direct—they then assume a character dangerous to the liberty, and law, and constituted agents of the country. If such measures are not repressed, the result will be deplorable. The Government will be hurried and forced precipitately into the

1807.  
July 6,  
Norfolk

adoption of measures which they may not choose to adopt or not at this time.

Schisms among our citizens will be produced. Those who are anxious to preserve the operation of the Laws in every state of things must be opposed to those who thus seize upon the reins of government. Parties will be formed, reciprocal denunciations will take place, and all the incalculable mischiefs resulting from civil discord in a crisis so awful as the present will ensue.

The suspension of the functions of the British Consul here by our Committee induces these remarks. I will not comment upon it further than to say, that it is the only pretext which our insidious foe now has to palliate any lawless act of aggression which they may feel disposed to perpetrate, and that it is of great importance, I think, to remove every cause or pretence which they may set up in vindication of themselves while we yet remain not at open war. Your presence in this quarter of the country at the present time, I think, is highly desirable. Clothed with the legal power of doing everything which is right and preventing everything wrong, your orders, opinions, and example would give such a tone to public act and public opinion as it ought to have. I wish therefore much, if you could conveniently visit this scene of danger shortly, that you would do so. But if not, if you concur with me in the opinions here expressed. I could wish that some measures might promptly be taken for the purpose of giving to the public fervor its true and proper direction. I will not venture to suggest even what these measures should be.

I am, &c.

*Letter of L. W. Tazewell to Mayor of Norfolk.*

In pursuance of your request, I this day went down to the British squadron, lying in Hampton Roads, for the purpose of delivering the letter with which I was charged, to Captain Douglass. Arriving alongside his ship, the Bellona, I was invited on board, received by Captain Douglass himself at the gangway and conducted to his cabin, where I found assembled all the Captains of the squadron. I immediately informed him that you had yesterday received a letter from him, the answer to which I had been directed to deliver, and placed it in his hands. He read the letter very attentively, and then handed it to Captain Hardy, from whom it passed to all the Captains in succession. When they had all perused it, Captain Douglass observed to me: "I presume, sir, you are acquainted with the contents of this letter." I told him I was perfectly. He then stated that his letter must have been misapprehended; that it contained no expression of menace which he recollected, and that it certainly was not his intention to use language which could be construed to convey such ideas. He referred to Captain Hardy, saying that

he had shewn him the letter previously to its being sent, and had requested his opinion as to its sentiments. Capt. Hardy concurred with Capt. Douglass in the opinion and objects of the communication. I then remarked to them the particular expressions in the letter which I considered as the language of threat and adverted to the circumstance of the words "immediately annulled" being underscored. He said that this underscoring must have been done by his clerk, without his direction, and had escaped his observation, but again assured me upon his honor that if any expression in the letter wore the appearance of a threat it was not intended to be so understood.

1807.  
July 6,  
Norfolk

Capt. Douglass next adverted to the conclusion of the letter, in which the alternative of peace or war was left to himself. He said upon this subject that he had no orders to commit any act of hostility, and that there was no man from whose intentions or wishes such an object was more remote. That he was anxious to preserve the relations of amity which existed between the two governments, and that no act of his should tend to interrupt their harmony, unless he was ordered by his superiors to perform such an act, in which case as an officer he must do his duty. He repeated, however, that he had at present no such orders, nor did he expect to receive such. He stated that he had it in charge generally to guard his flag and those under its protection from insult or assault of any kind, and that this in all situations he most unquestionably should do; but that any further measure he was not at present authorized nor was it his intention to take. I here stated to him the many insulting menaces which had been communicated in Norfolk as coming from him. He positively denied ever having uttered any such; declared if they had been used by any of his officers, that they were unauthorized and disapproved by him, remarking, at the same time, that he hoped that all who knew him would do him the justice to believe that he was not in the habit of using the language of threat. He here, too again referred to all the officers to say if they had ever heard him at any time, even while speaking confidentially to them, utter such expressions, and they united in declaring that they had not.

A desultory conversation then took place between Capt. Douglass and the other officers and myself, which continued near an hour, in the course of which, many remarks were made which had no reference to the subject of your letter, or were in any way connected with it. These, sir, I have already communicated to yourself and to all my fellow-citizens with whom I have conversed upon this topick; but as they are not connected with the subjects of your letter, I presume it would be unnecessary again to detail them here.

In the course of this conversation, I described to them, as well as I was able, the sentiments which universally prevailed through the country at this time, the causes from whence it proceeded, and the effect it

1807.  
July 6,  
Norfolk

would produce, provided any effort on their part should be made to oppose the public resolves as to intercourse or supplies. I explicitly declared to them that we had as yet received no authority from our government to proceed to acts of aggression, but that we were authorized and were prepared for defence and the protection of ourselves and our property; to prove which I placed in Capt. Douglass' hand an extract from the letter of Governor Cabell to Brigadier-General Mathews, which I had made for that purpose.

I concluded by warning him again not to send any of his officers or people on shore, for that if he did the arm of the civil authority, I did not believe, would be able to protect them from the vengeance of an enraged people; that this might lead to consequences which would precipitate our Governments into measures which might possibly yet be averted; and if he was sincere in the sentiments he had expressed, he would be anxious to prevent such results. Capt. Douglass and all the Captains declared that they were aware of the present state of public feeling, and deplored the circumstance which had excited it.

That they did not intend to expose any of their people to the resentment of ours, which they could conceive was very highly inflamed. That as to supplies, they did not want any at present, but when they did, they should not attempt to procure them in any way which could excite the opposition of the Citizens of this country. Upon the subject of intercourse, he did not expect to hold any with the people of this country, nor was there any occasion for it. He only wished to be permitted freely to communicate with the accredited officers of his government here who had been formally received and recognized by our Executive, and whose functions he presumed none but the government had the right to put down.

As to the particular manner in which this communication might be carried on, it was a matter quite indifferent to him. He had no objections to that being regulated by ourselves in any way which we judged proper, and that he would certainly pursue the mode which might be suggested as most agreeable to us, provided the channel of communication was left free and open. To this I stated that I had no authority from any person to enter into any agreement with him, but that as an individual I could state that the letters he had forwarded under cover to you had been safely delivered, and therefore I presumed any other dispatches of a like kind would be treated in the same way. But upon this subject I could only refer him to you and your associates for information. He then stated that he would to-day write an answer to your letter, which he should forward as before, and I left his ship, Capt. Douglass again repeating the substance of what I have already stated.

From the moment I approached the Bellona to that on which I left her, my treatment from Capt. Douglass and all his officers was marked



by as much attention, politeness, and respect as any gentleman ever received from others. My particular friend, Mr. James Taylor, Jr., accompanied me on board the British fleet, for reasons that will at once suggest themselves to you when you remember the delicate and embarrassing situation in which it was probable I might be placed. He remained on board the whole time with me, and was a witness to everything which passed. I have read to him this communication, Sir, in order to ascertain if my recollection was correct, and he accords with me in every statement here made.

1807.  
July 6,  
Norfolk

I am very respectfully,  
Your obed't Servant,

LITT'N W. TAZEWELL.

To R. E. Lee, Esq., Mayor of the Borough of Norfolk.

July 5, 1807.

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THOMAS SHEPHERD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Solicits a commission as Captain of a Rifle company which he proposes to raise in Nansemond county.

July 8,  
Nansemond

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D. M. RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting commission of Coloneley in a Cavalry Regiment which he proposes to raise.

July 8,  
Richmond

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THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your express of the 6th ins't reached me this day at  $\frac{1}{2}$  after one P. M. The British Squadron continued in their first position until this morning, when three of them removed and took their station near Sewell's point in the direct rout to this place; whether the movement proceeded from the change of weather, or it has been taken with a hostile intent it is difficult to say. The professions they have *lately* made, have been pacific, but they are not to be trusted.

July 8,  
Norfolk

To defend the pass by water to this place, I have used the best abilities of our people to repair Fort Norfolk, and will have nine eighteen pounders mounted and in great forwardness for defence this evening. It appeared to me that this work would be of considerable aid to the Chesapeake and French Frigate Cybelle, who with four gun-boats have taken a position near Fort Nelson. This Fort is in excellent order and under the command of an officer in whom I have great confidence.

1807.  
July 8,  
Norfolk

If any attack be contemplated by them, I trust they will receive a warmer reception than from our late apparent helpless state they have an idea of. This I am confident that they shall not occupy one foot of our Territory that shall not be well contended for. If they attack us, we expect they will land as many marines and seamen from the ships as they can spare, and make an attempt to take Fort Nelson in reverse.

The silencing of this work will be a means of expediting them in their advance to this Town. I shall take effectual means to prevent it. If time will permit, I shall erect a battery of ten 24 pounders near the marine hospital to provide for their comfortable reception in case they succeed in passing our line of defence below the town.

In consequence of the hostile appearance of the British, and the threats they were reported to have made aided by Douglass' letter, I was induced to dispatch a mail boat with a confidential gentleman to prevent his passing the Road. Williams was accordingly met and carried into Smithfield. On hearing this, I sent express to Gen'l Wills, directing him to impress the necessary wagons and carts for their safe conveyance by land to this place under escort of a subaltern guard. I received his answer by my express and am much surprised that the arms have not yet arrived. I shall send off to him this evening. I have directed my quarter-master to procure quarters for the troops expected here and have appointed a Forage master. I have been compelled to appoint an aid for the purpose of attending me and writing orders and letters.

When your Excellency considers the great want of discipline and the total want of knowledge of actual service in our countrymen, that I shall receive your sanction for this appointment.

I considered the force I had at command (if armed) as equal to anything the British could spare from their ships to act by land. The reinforcement mentioned by your Excellency will be equal to my wishes, and the Cavalry will be very useful. I wish it were possible to obtain a few field pieces.

I am, &c.

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JOHN TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 10,  
Mt. Airy

Since the late atrocious barbarity of the British and the present momentous crisis of affairs, I think all distinction of party, which has *unfortunately existed* for some time in our country, ought now to be laid aside. With this hope and impression, I beg leave to tender to your Excellency my services as a Dragoon officer, in doing which allow me to remark that I formerly commanded *all the Cavalry* attached to the ten adjacent counties to my residence, was on duty over the mountains in the year 1794, and was afterwards appointed by the President a Major in



1807. straps; 405 Cavalry Swords, with Belts, &c.; 50 Swords, with Scabbards,  
 July 10, &c., for Artillerists.  
 Va. Man'y Arms In two months expect to have ready 400 Muskets, 36 Rifles, 150 Pistols, 400 Cavalry Swords, 100 old Muskets repaired. 800 additional Muskets might be completed in two months, if required.

I am, &c.

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RITCHIE AYRES TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 11, Solicits arms for a Light Infantry Company of the 1st Battalion of the  
 Mathews Co. 61st Regiment.

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THOMAS M. RANDOLPH TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 12, Proposing to raise a company of Riflemen in Albemarle county for the  
 Albemarle service of the United States, if desired.

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WM. O. ALLEN TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 13, Soliciting a commission in the military service, his company having  
 Williams- nearly all volunteered in Cavalry and Infantry companies.  
 burg

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THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 13, Since addressing your Excellency by Return Express, I have ascer-  
 Norfolk tained that the British Ship Triumph, of 74 Guns, and the Melampus, of 36 guns, have moved from their station in Hampton Roads and taken their station near to Cape Henry. The Bellona and Leopard still remain in their former positions. What the ultimate design of this Squadron may be, is uncertain, but the exercise of power within our jurisdiction is truly grating to the feelings of every American, and which, if permitted, will prostrate the Independence of our country. Two vessels are permitted to pass unmolested. They fire at and bring too all without discrimination. I have not heard of any further violence being offered to the persons or property of our citizens, but this of itself is sufficient, as it tends to show the disposition of the nation with whom we have to deal.

Should any attempt be made on land I feel no apprehension of the results, as I am in possession of sufficient force to meet them. I shall, however, be on the alert, and permit them to gain no advantage. The

want of discipline, both in the officers and men, has imposed a very arduous task on me, and the moment they are in tolerable order I shall transmit to your Excellency a complete return of our strength.

Having officially received the Proclamation of the President of the United States from your Excellency, I considered it my duty to have it officially delivered to the British Commander. I therefore called on the collector, who appeared to me, under the Laws of the United States, to have immediate cognizance of business of this nature.

This officer declined acting in the business. I therefore considered it my duty to transmit it by one of my officers. Major Newton was therefore dispatched with it, and I do myself the honor to transmit to your Excellency a copy of the same.

The British Commander declined returning a written answer. The enclosed is the substance of what passed verbally between the British Commander and that officer, as reported to me by Major Newton. I wish to understand from you, Sir, whether I am to consider as my duty to prevent all communication by letter between the Squadron and his Britannic Majesty's Consul.

5 P. M.—The Bellona and Leopard have quitted Hampton Roads. I wish they may never return.

I am, &c.

HEADQUARTERS, *Norfolk, July 10th, 1807.*

SIR:

I do myself the honor to transmit to you a copy of the Proclamation of the President of the United States. It is not necessary for me to make any remarks on the occurrence that gave rise to this official act of my Government. It remains with you, sir, to decide what respect you will pay to this act of a Government whose object has ever been to remain in peace with all nations, and to observe a strict and impartial neutrality to all belligerents.

I am, with due respect, sir,

THOS. MATHEWS.

J. E. Douglass, Esq., or the Commanding Officer of Her Britannic Majesty's Squadron.

NORFOLK, *July 13th, 1807.*

SIR:

Agreeable to your instructions, I proceeded with your letter directed to Commodore J. E. Douglass to Hampton Roads. When I had arrived within hail of his ship, inquiry was made if the Commodore was on board, and being answered in the affirmative, I ascended the sides of his ship, was received by the commander himself, and invited into his cabin.

I then stated the object of my mission, and handed him your letter, which was immediately opened, together with the Proclamation it con-

1807.  
July 13,  
Norfolk

1807.  
July 13,  
Norfolk

tained, nearly in my presence. I observed that I had instructions to take charge of his answer, and should wait if he thought proper to communicate it by letter. To which he replied that his last letter to the Mayor of Norfolk had been returned unopened, and that he should not again place himself in a situation to be insulted. He then assured me that it was his intention to have removed his ship from her present anchorage; that he should, if the wind was fair in the morning, make signal for a pilot to take charge of her, as he was unwilling to take upon himself the responsibility of carrying her down.

With a view to discharge faithfully and correctly the duty entrusted to me, I have to observe, sir, that I repeated to him the message I should deliver to you as his answer, viz: "that agreeable to his intention he should in the morning leave his anchorage and proceed to sea," when I was interrupted and told in reply that he should control his own movements, but would certainly quit his present situation.

I am, sir, with respect, your obed't serv't,

G. NEWTON.

To Brigadier-General Thos. Mathews.

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RICHARD COCKE AND OTHERS TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 14,  
Hampton

Asking the appointment of Charles L. Abrams, late Cornet of their Troop, as Quartermaster of same.

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JAMES WILSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 14,  
Mecklen-  
burg

Soliciting arms for his Company of Cavalry.

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W. DUDLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 14,  
Hampton

I have the honor to inform your Excellency, that the two British ships Bellona and Leopard left Hampton Roads yesterday morning, and anchored abreast of Cape Henry where two others lay at anchor; we expected from the favorable wind then prevailing, that they were bound to sea, but I have this moment returned from Buckroe where I went for the purpose of reconnoitering, and find that they are still at anchor, nor do I believe that they mean to quit the station. I enclose for the information of your Excellency, a return of the troops at this place and its vicinities, under my command, which I think fully adequate to repel any attack that may be made by the British ships now in the waters of the Chesapeake.

I take the liberty of suggesting to your Excellency, the propriety of requiring the Commandant of the 115th Reg't to relieve the two companies of Infantry now on duty at this place, in a short time, by calling out two other companies; one of those companies now on duty is composed (chiefly) of the poorer class of our citizens and whose families are supported by their daily labor. I flatter myself that no inference will be drawn from this that I have a wish to be relieved; on the contrary I hope your Excellency will continue me in service, so long as it shall be thought necessary to keep troops embodied to repel invasion and my conduct approved of.

1807.  
July 14,  
Hampton

I have, &c.

JULY 14TH, 1807.

Return of Troops now on duty at Hampton and its vicinity:

Infantry—1 Major, 2 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 2 Ensigns, 1 Adjutant, 1 Quartermaster, 1 Surgeon, 8 Sergeants. 8 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 86 Rank file; 114 Total.

Cavalry—1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Cornet, 1 Musician, 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 21 Rank and file; 33 Total.

W. DUDLEY,  
Major Comm'd't, Hampton.

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THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Your Excellency's letter of the 10th Inst. never reached me until 5 o'clock P. M. on yesterday, and my having written to you on yesterday induced me to detain the Express until this hour in order to communicate the observations of Mr. Lee, an intelligent officer whom I had dispatched with a communication from Mr. Erskine to the British Commander. Major Lee was sent on this duty in consequence of a request made by the Secretary of State to the Mayor of the Corporation to facilitate the despatches alluded to.

July 15,  
Norfolk

It is necessary to observe to your Excellency that the whole force of the Squadron at this moment consists of two line of Battle Ships—one of 60 Guns and one Frigate, 1 armed Brig and 2 Boats. They have ships on the Coast which call occasionally into the Capes and depart after a short stay. The whole force this Squadron could spare on an emergency for any hostile attack on our shore cannot exceed 700 men, say 180 marines, or probably 200, and 500 seamen. They will be cautious how they risk the latter. In consequence of this I have ordered 200 Infantry from the 7th Regiment and 500 from the 54th, and taken those detachments from the two towns of Norfolk and Portsmouth, to

1807.  
July 15,  
Norfolk

save our fellow citizens in the country from the distress which might arise in consequence of ordering them from home at this particular season.

The Cavalry and Artillery attached to my Brigade are likewise in service. With this force I am persuaded they cannot commit any serious outrage.

The facility afforded them by the command of the water, will enable them if they think proper to attempt it, to make frequent incursions in hopes to obtain a supply of fresh provisions and water. The President's Proclamation shall be my guide. As I have before observed to your Excellency, our only apprehension is by water. Should they contemn the order of the President of the United States, it is probable they may attempt the town by water; if they do, I trust their reception will be warm; the forces from my Brigade with the aid of the Cavalry ordered by your Excellency, appear to me competent to our security. From the extent of our coast, I shall be compelled to keep the Cavalry on pretty hard duty; I shall however indulge them all I can, the good of the service considered. The troops mentioned by your Excellency as having been ordered for Hampton, will I am persuaded answer all the purposes of defence.

Major Ambler with the detachment under his command arrived this day. They are much fatigued and require some time to recruit their strength and spirits. They are fine troops.

We have been extremely unfortunate with respect to the arms, it was not until yesterday that those forwarded by Williams arrived; those by Woodard with cartouch boxes have not come to hand, I expect them this day.

Gen'l Wells to whom I have written in a very pressing manner, must have met with great difficulty in procuring carriages. I wish your Excellency had been more explicit with regard to Major Winston's appointment. I have construed it to extend to Major Winston the duties of Deputy Adjutant-General and Inspector of the Line, and not in exclusion of the Inspector of my Brigade.

I am, &c.

July 15,  
Lancaster  
County

Presley Saunders, 1st Major Fort Davenport, 2 Majors and 7 Captains of the 92nd Regiment of Lancaster, soliciting arms for their Regiment.

JOHN P. HUNGERFORD TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 15,  
Leeds

I have this moment received your letter of the 10th ins't, calling on me to hold 500 men in readiness to march at a moment's warning.

I shall proceed with alacrity and pleasure to execute your orders. The



late daring and insolent conduct of the B. Squadron has justly excited the indignation of our country, and I trust that there is not an American who would not cheerfully step forward to punish their aggressions.

1807.  
July 15,  
Leeds

I have only time to add a free and voluntary offer of my services to my country.

I am, &c.

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JOHN THORNTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms for his company of fifty-seven men.

July 16,  
Richmond

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JOHNSON MALLORY, THOS. B. SEYMOUR AND MARCUS F. C. JORDAN  
TO THE GOVERNOR.

Complaining that notwithstanding the commissions granted them in the Norfolk Grenadier Company, partly organized, the company had been ordered back by Col. Sharp to the Militia contrary to their wishes, and asking the intervention of the Executive.

July 16,  
Norfolk

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THOS. MATTHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Knowing that the British ships of war in contempt of the President's Proclamation not only continue in our waters, but that they make frequent excursions on shore to procure if possible supplies from our people and particularly water, I detached two days passed, Capt. Shepard of the Cavalry, with a small party of Infantry from Princess Anne to prevent this. I do myself the honor to forward you my instructions to Capt. Shepard as well as additional instructions given to Capt. Ro. B. Taylor, who marches this day to the relief of Capt. Shepard. I have this moment received a letter from Capt. Shepard announcing to me that he had taken two midshipmen and three seamen who had been engaged in procuring a supply of water, and as they were armed, it is presumable that they must have contemplated some depredation on our citizens.

July 17,  
Norfolk

From Capt. Shepard's report, it appears that the British boat landed on the east side of Lynhaven Inlet last evening, that they were fired on by a party of our citizens unknown to Capt. Shepard or myself, but whose motives were truly patriotic. They immediately quitted their boats, leaving two water casks and two muskets, and were by the disposition made by Capt. Shepard discovered this morning and taken.

I feel confident that the continuance of the British ships of war in our waters is a breach of the Proclamation. That these efforts to procure

1807.  
July 17,  
Norfolk

supplies is an aggravation of the insult offered. I shall therefore fee—  
myself justified in detaining those men until the pleasure of the Govern—  
ment be made known to me. Major Lee having been sent by me or—  
application of the Mayor to forward the despatches received from Mr.—  
Erskine, thro' the medium of the Secretary of State, made me a report—  
in writing which I do myself the honor to enclose. From the haste in—  
which I wrote to your Excellency, I am prevented making a communi—  
cation to the Secretary of War.

I pray your Excellency to forward to that Department, such part of—  
my communication as you shall deem proper.

I am, &c.

NORFOLK, *July 15, 1807.*

To Brigadier-General THOMAS MATHEWS:

SIR:

Agreeable to your instructions, I took charge of the despatches from  
his Excellency Mr. Erskine and Col. Hamilton to Commodore Douglass.  
I arrived in the vicinity of the Squadron about half past five o'clock in  
the afternoon.

I went on board the Commodore's ship the *Bellona*. When alongside,  
the marks of external civility, such as manning the sides and the call of  
the Boatswain, were shewn to me and I proceeded to ascend the side.  
When about half way up the side, Commodore Douglass himself came to  
the Gangway and arrested my ascent by asking me if I was not informed  
that all communication between his Squadron and the citizens of the  
United States had been interdicted? I replied that I was apprized of that  
circumstance, but as far as I understood, that the business which brought  
me would justify me in the violation of that interdiction; that some  
communication had taken place between Mr. Erskine and the Govern-  
ment of the United States, in consequence of which, despatches had been  
sent from Mr. Erskine to Col. Hamilton for the purpose of being for-  
warded to him—that at the same time the Mayor of the Borough of  
Norfolk had received instructions from the Secretary of State, to facilitate  
the communication between the authorized agents of the British Govern-  
ment and the Commodore on that station; that in consequence of the  
request of the Mayor and your orders, I was the bearer of those despatches,  
and that I at the same time was the bearer of some letters from Col.  
Hamilton; upon which I was asked to walk up, delivered the despatches,  
and was invited into the cabin. After being in the cabin about five min-  
utes, Sir Thomas Hardy, Captain Humphries, and Captain Hawker, the  
Captains of the other three ships, were announced, and the four together  
proceeded to break open and examine the papers I had delivered. No ob-  
servation took place between us as to the nature of the despatches, nor was  
any conversation sought or expected by me, as I considered myself merely

employed to deliver the despatches. After their examination of them however had taken place, a conversation was brought on which I endeavored to decline or repress, as from the manner in which it began I acquired nothing agreeable to my feelings.

1807.  
July 17,  
Norfolk

The subjects were trifling and by no means important, but the manner on their part was marked by so much arrogance and superciliousness, that my situation was by no means the most pleasant. The general tenor of it was to cast sarcasms, and to treat with derision and contempt the feelings of the American people and the measures which had been adopted. This conduct was repelled by me and retorted with severity as far as the nature of my situation would permit. After remaining on board about an hour, and they had completely gone through an examination of the despatches, I informed Commodore Douglass that I was authorized to be the bearer of any communications which he might wish to make, either to Mr. Erskine or to Col. Hamilton, and offered my services for that purpose. These were declined by him, alledging that the communications he had received, were so voluminous that he had not time to reply to them by me, but would adopt some other method to do so, upon which I took my leave, and on our way to the Gangway, some conversation took place between Commodore Douglass and myself concerning the President's Proclamation; he denied that he had ever been served with an official copy of that instrument; that he was not bound to regard, and should not regard it.

The Squadron consists of four ships, viz: the Bellona, Triumph, Leopard and Melampus. They were stationed just within Cape Henry and very close into the shore. I understood from some of the officers that on the evening of the 5th inst, the day after their arrival in Hampton Roads, it was their intention to have come up to Norfolk, and from the tenor of their conversation, the manner in which it was conducted, and their station on our coast uncommonly near to the shore, I am convinced that it is a duty which we owe to ourselves to be in readiness to repel acts of hostility and the violation of our laws, as I am confident they may reasonably be expected.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your very obed't servant,

RICH'D H. LEE.

HEAD QUARTERS, *Norfolk, 15 July, 1807.*

Captain Shepard of the Cavalry:

SIR:

With the detachment of Cavalry under your command, you will proceed without delay to Lynhaven Inlet. The letter I have given you directed to John Lovett, Sen'r, William Woodhouse, and Lemuel Cornick, Esq'r, you will deliver to those gentlemen or either of them.

1807.  
July 17,  
Norfolk

You may place full confidence on whatever information they may give you. The object of your excursion has in view the restriction enjoined by the Proclamation of the President of the United States, of intercourse as well as supplies with the British ships of war in our waters. Let the President's Proclamation be your guide. It is my wish fully to carry this Proclamation into effect; you will therefore use your best endeavors to prevent the British ships from receiving supplies of any kind. In executing this object, I can rely on your prudence and discretion in not being the aggressor, but at the same time I rely on your not permitting them contrary to the letter and spirit of the Proclamation to infringe.

You will halt at Kempsville and deliver the letter to Col. Robinson, and at four to-morrow morning take up your march for your destination. Col. Robinson will give you a letter to a Lieutenant of Infantry, who will receive your orders. Let me hear from you daily by one of your party, and continue on your situation until I shall send an officer to your relief, to whom you will deliver a copy of these orders.

You will deliver for Col. Tatham if you fall in with him. He is an officer in the service of the United States and may be useful to you. In case any occurrence of importance should happen, you are to lose no time in notifying me.

Take care to preserve the rights of our fellow-citizens in their fullest extent.

HEAD QUARTERS, *Norfolk, July 17th, 1807.*

Captain Robert B. Taylor:

SIR:

You will proceed immediately with the detachment under your command, to Lynhaven Inlet and relieve Capt. Shepard, whom you will direct to return immediately to head quarters. You will receive from Capt. Shepard a copy of my directions, to which I will add that on mature reflection, I am persuaded that it is the intention of the President by the Proclamation, merely to prevent supplies and intercourse with the British ships of war, which remain within our waters in contempt of the Proclamation. I do therefore recommend to you to be cautious before you commence any act of hostility. If any of the persons interdicted by the President of the United States should in contempt of the authority of our Government, repair to the shore for communication with our citizens or for the purpose of obtaining supplies, you will by a special messenger, order them to retire from our territory. If they refuse, you will do all in your power to carry into effect the Proclamation of the President of the United States. In the latter event, I rely on your discretion to make no attempt to enforce obedience to your orders, unless you have a strong probability of success. With troops so little acquainted with service as we are, it is proper not to permit them to engage unless advantage present

THEY ARE TO BE KEPT IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT, AND NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ANY OTHER OFFICE OR PERSON WITHOUT THE ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT.

THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT

THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER OF THE 15TH INSTANT, IN WHICH YOU REQUESTED THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE KEPT IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT, AND NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ANY OTHER OFFICE OR PERSON WITHOUT THE ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT. THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT HAS THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER OF THE 15TH INSTANT, IN WHICH YOU REQUESTED THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE KEPT IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT, AND NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ANY OTHER OFFICE OR PERSON WITHOUT THE ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY AND NAVY DEPARTMENT.

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I am, &c.

THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR

Your letters of the 15th and 17th inst reached me this morning by the same express. Two of the British ships I am informed, (by a letter from Lynhaven rece'd last evening) still remain within the Cape. It is said by officers in that neighborhood, that several negroes have made their

July 20  
Suffolk

1807.  
July 20,  
Norfolk

escape from their masters to the British ships and have been by them received. This information is not official, yet the circumstances related with respect to it, have made a deep impression on the minds of our people, and will no doubt increase their resentment.

Only two of the British Squadron remain within the Cape, the Triumph and the Melampus. Another ship said to be the Cleopatra, joined them on Friday, but departed yesterday with a ship and brigg supposed to be captured by them as no flag was hoisted, it cannot be ascertained to what nation these detained vessels belonged. If captured however, the capture was made in our bay.

The public credit stands high; we have felt no inconvenience on that score.

The recall of Major Ambler I have thought it necessary to delay, until I can see what measures the Squadron will pursue in consequence of the five men I have detained.

An informal demand has been made to some gentlemen without authority for the delivery of these men, the boat, &c., and until I can ascertain the manner of their proceeding in consequence of this act, I shall delay to discharge Major Ambler. The high opinion I entertain of this Corps, will induce me to afford them a chance to distinguish themselves.

I am, &c.

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JOHN MAYO TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 20,  
Richmond

While I deplore most sincerely the necessity of our Country's calling for Military aid, I feel a pleasure in the opportunity offered of manifesting my willingness to obey her first call. I therefore beg leave through you to announce to the Executive of Virginia, that upon all and every occasion, my services are ready. In saying this, I mean not to be understood as offering with any degree of indifference whether those offers are, or are not accepted. My professions are not intended to terminate *in words*—and lest a verbal and personal communication might be again deemed a mode of communication too indefinite, I repeat that under the requisition of the President of the U. S., for one hundred thousand men, I am prepared to occupy a post in the department or quota to be supplied *by Virginia*, and that as one of the Senior Cols. Commandant of the State, I have some right to expect notice. Under a firm conviction that justice will *hence forward* be fully rendered me,

I am, &c.,

ROBERT JACOB TO THE GOVERNOR.

Setting forth the exposed situation of the people of Northampton to pillage by the British marauders, and soliciting 300 stand of arms for his Reg't of 400 men. 1807.  
July 21,  
Northampton

Informing that the British had landed on Smith's Island within a few days and taken from the few families there, their sheep without adequate compensation.

ROBERT GAMBLE TO THE GOVERNOR.

The following sketch explanatory of the motives which actuate and impel the citizens (exempt from militia duty) whose names are annexed, to form themselves into a company, the more effectually to be useful to their fellow citizens and each other in case of danger, I trust will be sufficiently satisfactory to the Honorable the Executive, without taking up their time with a perusal of all the proceedings and regulations of the associates, in their patriotic endeavor (shall occasion require) to protect the seat of Government either in the absence of their younger brethren on distant duty or otherwise. And especially as most of the persons, by glancing over their names, the Executive are doubtless sufficiently acquainted with to induce a confidence, that the arms which may be confided to the individuals will be safe and faithfully returned when so required. Several of the gentlemen intend equipping themselves, but others cannot make such a measure convenient. July 22,  
Richmond

It will be my duty, and I shall certainly be careful, that a proper receipt of accountability for what arms each receives, shall be executed and kept or deposited in the proper office of vouchers in similar cases, as the Executive shall direct.

Our regulations respecting the arms being always kept in good order, together with the emulation which I flatter myself will govern each member, will be a guarantee that the arms thus solicited shall receive no injury.

I am, Sir, in behalf of the company associated under the title of "Silver Greys,"

Y<sup>rs</sup>, &c.

July 13th, 1807.

Roll of a company under the denomination of "Silver Greys," associated for the purpose of aiding and assisting in guarding the city of Richmond and its vicinity, during the period that the armed volunteers and other Militia may be ordered on more distant service:

Robert Gamble elected Captain; James Gibbon elected Lieutenant; William Price elected Ensign; John Page, William Robertson, George Pickett, Robert Pollard, Augustine Davis, Daniel Triplet, John Foster,

1807.  
July 22,  
Richmond

Jacob I. Cohen, Samuel Myers, William Prichard, John Glynn, Jacob Desyon, Solomon Raphail, Samuel Payne, Jas. Worrall, L. Werg. John Moody, William Galt, Charles Cox, Andrew Castlen, John Darrous, Rob't Hendrick, Joseph Galligo, John Moss, Isaac Allen, John McKim, Philip Fulcher, Michael Grantland, John Graham, Wm. Dawson, A. Foster, Thomas Nicholson, David Lambert, John Williamson, David Bullock, John D. Blair, William Carter, Levin Blake, John Courtney, Peter Combe, Peter Aubry, Arch'd Blair, John Royster, Patrick Ternan, Nenian Wyse, John McAllister, William Hewlett, Joseph Jackson, Joseph Abucromby, James Paul—53.

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Petition of the following persons for commissions under the promise to raise a company of Cavalry in the county of Culpeper is filed, viz:

George Montague Parsons as Captain; William Ward, First Lieutenant; James Menifer, Second Lieutenant; Daniel Ward, Cornet.

Testimonials of character of the above parties by John Roberts, Thos. Broadus, John Shackelford, and Aylett Hawes, are filed.

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JOHN B. COHORN TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 23,  
Suffolk

In pursuance of orders received from Brigadier-General Emanuel Wells, requiring the company or companies of Light Infantry in my regiment to be ready to march at a moment's warning, I have inquired into the state of the Light Infantry company commanded by Capt. Jonah Riddick, Jr., and find it consists of forty-six, including officers and privates.

The General goes on to require that, in the event that there should be no volunteer Light Infantry company, I hold in readiness fifty-five men, three commissioned and four non-commissioned officers, from the main body of the Militia, to march as above. He, however, recommends that this number should be raised from volunteers.

I feel a pleasure in representing to the Executive that Capt. Riddick's company consists of the choicest youth of the regiment, and presents a most flattering prospect. They are greatly chagrined they cannot march for want of arms. They are, however, extremely anxious and solicitous that the Executive will cause them to be immediately furnished.

There is no doubt in my mind if the arms are furnished, that the company would be made as full as the utmost limits of the law. In addition to this, I beg leave to state that the Fifty-ninth Regiment is also destitute of arms save two companies, which are partially armed. There is also a troop of Cavalry attached to the regiment, commanded by Capt. James Riddick, which has never received arms.

By this statement, the Executive will discover the defenceless state of



this part of the country, which is bordering on that spot where danger is apprehended.

I am, &c.

1807.  
July 23,  
Suffolk

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WM. B. HARRISON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Complaining that his claim to the command of the Fifty-seventh Regiment of Militia has been disregarded, having been a Major in the Revolutionary army, while the man commissioned was only a corporal.

July 23,  
Loudoun Co.

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JAMES BREAM, JOHN PARKHILL, WM. HAY, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

The gentlemen of this city who have associated themselves for the purpose of forming a Grenadier company, before they incur the expense of procuring the necessary uniform, are desirous of knowing from the Executive what number will be considered as indispensably necessary to constitute a company. To obtain this information the undersigned are deputed by the association; and are likewise instructed to inform the Executive that, altho' the feelings of patriotism and the military ardor created by the present situation of our public affairs may induce many to join the company, it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to procure the requisite number if the immediate appearing in uniform is a condition without which the officers cannot be commissioned.

July 23,  
Richmond

Under these circumstances, the undersigned are instructed to submit to the Executive, with the greatest deference, whether the commissions cannot be granted according to the election of the company upon the express condition that the prescribed number shall appear in the uniform established by proclamation within the space of twelve months?

We are, &c.

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THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Since writing your Excellency of the 20th, the whole of the British squadron proceeded from our bay and stood to the southward of Cape Henry. They returned in about twelve hours. In this excursion, they took from the beach near Currituck a few pieces of cannon that belonged to a British tender that had been wrecked in the course of the last winter. It is conjectured that they have received supplies from some coasting vessels that were observed to remain with them for some time and afterwards returned to Currituck Inlet. The Leopard has joined since I last wrote.

July 23,  
Norfolk

1807.  
July 23,  
Norfolk

Finding that the British have been quiet since I have had possession of the men of whom I wrote you, I have ordered Major Ambler to prepare his detachment to march on Saturday next.

I have recommended to the Major a conveyance by water. This officer with his whole detachment, merit the highest applause. The cheerfulness with which they have submitted to the inconveniences attending a military life, entitle them to the warmest thanks of their country. I am persuaded that, if an opportunity be presented to them, they cannot fail to acquire honor. The wish of your Excellency with respect to Major McRae's detachment can be complied with. His corps have performed some duty, and from the nature of it I am persuaded they have found it severe. They have, however, conducted themselves in such a manner as to merit my thanks. If your Excellency shall determine on their recall, I could wish that the troop from Suffolk may be directed to hold themselves in readiness to march to this place on the shortest notice.

I am, &c.

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ROBERT ANDERSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 24,  
Williams-  
burg

Having felt real regret that I was not fortunate enough to be ordered out with my company among the first troops called into service for the protection of the coast, it is with much pleasure I hear that, in consequence of a request from Major Dudley to that effect, the Council of State are about to direct a reinforcement to join the detachment now stationed at Hampton. In support of my earnest request to be permitted with my company to make a part of the proposed reinforcement, I beg leave to suggest to the Executive that the individuals under my command, consist principally of young men who have an eager desire to engage in the service (and to continue in it if necessary), and that, being unembarrassed by families or other obstacles, they are perhaps better adapted to military duty than most of those that compose the Sixty-eighth Regiment, who in general are farmers and men of families, or otherwise so involved in domestic concerns as to render their absence from home inconvenient.

The company of Captain William O. Allen, at this place, having been much reduced by the late formation of mine and the recruits which the Williamsburg Cavalry have gained from that body, there remains a considerable surplus of arms in his hands. This surplus, by the direction of the Executive, could be directly placed in the hands of my company for use until convenience would permit an exchange for rifles, and thus armed they could immediately proceed to Hampton, and there wait for the necessary supply of tents, knapsacks, and ammunition.

Entreating that you will refer my earnestness on this occasion to a just and ardent desire to distinguish myself in the service of our common country,

I am, &c.

1807.  
July 24,  
Williams-  
burg

#### RESOLUTIONS OF CITIZENS OF FRANKLIN, KENTUCKY.

At a meeting of the citizens of Franklin, at the State House in Frankfort, on Friday the 24th of July, 1807, for the purpose of taking into consideration the depredations, insults, and outrages committed by British subjects on the property, rights, and persons of American citizens, His Excellency Christopher Greenup, Esq., was unanimously requested to take the chair, and William Trigg was appointed secretary to the meeting.

July 24,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky

Whereupon the committee appointed for the purpose, reported that having had the several subjects referred to them under their deliberation—having heard the recital of the late unprovoked and piratical attack made upon the United States frigate, the *Chesapeake*, of thirty-six guns, commanded by Commodore Barron, by the British ship of war, the *Leopard*, of fifty guns, commanded by Captain Humphries—of the murder of our fellow-citizens and the abasement of the American flag, together with the insult and outrage committed on board the said frigate by the British officer in mustering the ship's crew and taking from thence four American citizens and seamen, and with insolence and contempt leaving the killed and wounded on board the shattered hulk without a flag. And considering these transactions as the effect of a settled determination on the part of the British government to avail herself of her naval superiority to depredate on the property, harrass the citizens, destroy the commerce, and insult the independence of the United States of America, evidences of which determination are seen in the long and lawless practice of impressing American seamen on board their merchant vessels; in vexatious and unjustifiable seizures and detentions of those vessels, and frequent condemnation of their cargoes contrary to the laws of nations; in the wanton and cruel murder of John Pierce off the port of New York; in the insolent letter of Capt. Love, abusive of our President and government, in the port of Charleston, on board the armed ship *Driver*, and his subsequent capture of sundry American merchant ships on our coasts, but especially in the late unprovoked, cold-blooded, and dastardly attack on the *Chesapeake*, in which a series of unprincipled depredation and robbery is crowned by inhuman murder, riotous devastation, and atrocious insult. The more justly to be resented by the American government and nation, as they have ever made it a first principle in their practice to avoid giving offence, doing justice to every one and aiming at the preservation of peace with all nations. But there is a

1807.  
July 24,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky

point in the progress of encroachment and aggression, beyond which would be a degradation to submit; and considering the American nation now at that point where our feelings, sympathising with our suffering fellow-citizens and outraged by the unprovoked violence and insult of our *pretended friends*, demand retaliation, and where, perceiving the further quiet and submission on our part would but expose us to new insults and a repetition of injury on the part of our real enemies; then there,

Resolved, unanimously, That we have viewed with grief as well as indignation for some years past, a propensity on the part of Great Britain to infringe our national rights.

2d, Resolved, nem. con., That in disclaiming all intention of dictating to our government, we consider the late unprecedented attack of the British ship *Leopard* on the United States ship *Chesapeake*, as having filled the measure of national insult and injury.

3d, Resolved, nem. con., That in expressing our full and entire confidence in the present Executive, we rely firmly on such measures being taken as will in future secure our independence and enforce respect from all European nations.

4th, Resolved, nem. con., That we will support the constituted authorities of our country in the measures they shall in their wisdom deem proper to take in vindication of our national honor with our lives and our fortunes.

5th, Resolved, nem. con., As our opinion and firm hope, that if we are to lose our independence, it shall be lost with swords in our hands.

6th, Resolved, nem. con., That it is the duty of all who claim or aspire to the high and dignified station of free men to preserve their national rights or die in the last ditch in defence of them.

7th, Resolved, nem. con., That we strongly sympathize in the sentiments expressed and the prompt and patriotic measures adopted by the citizens of Norfolk (Virginia) and its vicinity on this trying emergency flowing from a laudable indignation at the atrocious outrage committed on our flag, and dictated by a disinterested regard for the honor and independence of our common country.

8th, Resolved, nem. con., That this meeting do approve of the spirit of opposition to the acts of violence and hostility committed on American citizens and the flag of the United States by British subjects manifested in the meetings of our Atlantic brethren, and also of the determination of those meetings to avoid and prohibit all intercourse with British ships of war until the determination of our government shall be known.

9th, Resolved, nem. con., That the thanks of this meeting be presented to the chairman of the meeting for his prompt and faithful attention to the important subjects under consideration, and that he be requested to

forward a copy of these proceedings to the President of the United States, to the Executive of each State and to the editors of the Western World and Palladium.

180,  
July 24,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky

Signed by order of the meeting

CHRISTOPHER GREENUP, Chairman

Test

WILLIAM TRICE, Secretary

THOMAS MATTHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR

I received the packet and letters alluded to in your Excellency's letter of the 23rd inst. Major Dudley. They reached me late on the 25th, on the 26th I dispatched Major Tazewell with a letter for Sir Thomas Hardy, the commanding officer of his Britannic Majesty's Squadron in Lynhaven Bay, covering the dispatches as directed.

July 28  
Norfolk

I do myself the honor to enclose you a copy of my letter to the British commander as also my instructions to Major Tazewell. Major Tazewell could not reach his destination until some time after nine yesterday, and the absence of the commanding officer Sir Thomas Hardy, has prevented him from making the arrangement definitively. His provisional agreement with Humphries you have enclosed. By this paper your Excellency will observe the mode of exchange of flags as far as it relates to us, is fixed if approved by them. If they shall object to it, I am to be notified of any change they shall think proper to propose on their first communication. You have likewise a copy of a letter written by Major Tazewell to Major Dudley, by my direction, notifying the provisional arrangement. The moment I hear from them you shall be immediately informed.

The British ships except the Leopard, left their anchorage in Lynhaven Bay on Saturday and stood to the southward. The Triumph and Cleopatra returned about three o'clock, P. M. yesterday. From various quarters we learn that they are collecting their force of small draft of water from their several stations. This is but report, and they multiply upon us in such numbers that I give but little credit to them. No attempt indicating hostility has been made. From the indisposition of one of the midshipmen, I have been induced to order the party here. The two officers I have paroled and the seamen confined.

Since writing the above, I have received from Major Tazewell a statement of what passed on board the Leopard. I do myself the honor to enclose it.

I am, &c.

1807.  
July 28,  
Norfolk

HEADQUARTERS, Norfolk, *July 26, 1807.*

SIR:

The object of your mission to the commanding officer of the British squadron is to establish the ceremony to be observed in the interchange of flags. In making this arrangement I have only to observe that you will attend to the instructions of Government as communicated to me, and that you will not permit anything like form to prevent you from establishing any mode that may be proposed, provided it be founded on principles of reciprocity, and in conformity to the instructions before alluded to. Should you fix on Hampton as the port for reception of flags from the squadron, you will communicate to Major Dudley, commanding at Hampton, the arrangement you make, and direct him to conform to the same. Mr. Semple, of the Cavalry, has my instructions to accompany you.

I am, sir, very respectfully, yours, &c.

THOS. MATHEWS,

To Major Tazewell.

Brigadier General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS, Norfolk, *26th July, 1807.*

SIR:

The packet herewith enclosed, I have just received from one of my officers, who informs me that it was put on board a pilot from Hampton by a boat from your ship.

I now return it to you, as it was received by me under the impression that it may have been forwarded without a knowledge on your part of the course my government has determined to pursue. I will use this occasion to point out to you what that course is, remarking at the same time that in future we shall feel no obligation to preserve packets which may be sent in any other mode than that now stated. I am charged by my Government that no communication whatever coming from any armed vessel bearing a commission under the Government of his Britannic Majesty, and remaining in our waters in defiance of the authority of the Government of the United States are to be respected or permitted to be received unless accompanied by a flag. To this let me add that I must still reserve to myself the right of judging on the propriety of forwarding any communications sent from such ships even under a flag, assuring you, however, sir, that whensoever I shall deem it necessary to refuse the transmission of such communications, they will safely be returned to you.

My aide-de-camp, Major Tazewell, who will hand you this, will arrange with you everything necessary to be observed in relation to the exchange of flags, should you choose to adopt the mode I have stated.

I have the honor to be, with all due respect, sir,

Your most ob't serv't,

THOS. MATHEWS,

To Sir Thomas Hardy.

Brigadier-General Commanding.

LIGHT-HOUSE, Point Comfort, *July 27th, 1807.*

Major WILLIAM DUDLEY, Commanding at Hampton:

1807.  
July 28,  
Norfolk

Sir—The enclosed copy of the only arrangement I have made with the officers of the British squadron will sufficiently explain to you every thing which it may otherwise be necessary for me to state. Should a flag be sent, agreeably to the arrangement stated, you will, of course, take care to have every preparation for the proper reception of the officer who may bring it, and will immediately forward to Brigadier-General Mathews any dispatches which he may bring.

Mr. Semple, of the Williamsburg Cavalry, under your command (who accompanied me on board the *Leopard*), will state to you fully every thing which there occurred. To him, therefore, I beg to refer you for all information not found in my communications.

I am, very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

L. W. TAZEVELL.

As Captain Humphries does not feel himself authorized to settle definitively any plan hereafter to be pursued in forwarding dispatches which may be received from the British Government to its Minister in the United States until Sir Thomas Hardy, his senior officer, shall have been consulted, Major Tazewell will state a mode which may be pursued on the first occasion, and if then disapproved of, Sir Thomas Hardy will, on his first dispatch, express his disapprobation and suggest some other mode as more agreeable to him.

The mode proposed is this: The senior officer of his Britannic Majesty's squadron here will send a boat with a flag, accompanied by an officer, with his passport, to the mouth of Hampton creek, where he will be received by a guard from the detachment there stationed. The dispatches will be there delivered to the American officer commanding, and will be by him forwarded immediately to the General commanding, from whom a reply will be sent in the same way as early as possible.

Conditional arrangement by Major Tazewell.

HEAD QUARTERS, *Norfolk, July 28th, 1807.*

8 o'clock, A. M.

SIR:

My letter from Hampton (which you have no doubt received,) will explain to you the causes of my delay in the execution of your orders of the 26th. I have now to report the proceedings which have taken place subsequent to the date of that letter.

I sailed from Hampton at 2 o'clock, A. M., of the 27th ins't, for the purpose of going on board the British Squadron as you directed. Head winds and very bad weather prevented my getting down to their anchorage ground until half past nine of that morning. When I reached that

1807.  
July 28,  
Norfolk

I found no other ship there but the *Leopard*; the *Triumph* and *Cleopatra* having gone to sea (as I afterwards understood) on the evening of the 25th.

The weather being stormy and having no sufficient boat, I made repeated efforts to board the *Leopard* but ineffectually.

Capt. Humphries discovering this, and seeing my flag, sent his barge with an officer on board my pilot boat with a message to the following effect:

"Capt. Humphries sends his compliments to the officer on board this boat, and having seen a flag and witnessed the efforts of the officer to board his ship, he supposes he has some business with him; if so, as the badness of the weather will render the approach to the ship difficult if not dangerous, he begs to offer him the use of his boat and requests he will come on board in her."

Immediately I got on board the *Leopard's* barge with Cornet Semple, and we proceeded on board that ship. We were received by Capt. Humphries with the usual ceremonials at his gangway, and conducted to his cabin, after being paid the military salute of presented arms by his marines on deck, (42 in number).

I immediately opened my business to him by stating that I had a dispatch for Capt. Sir Thomas Hardy or the officer commanding the British Squadron there. That he was the best judge of the propriety of opening the dispatch in the absence of Capt. Hardy. If he felt himself authorized to do so, the dispatch would speak its own contents; but if not, I would state to him what was its purport. He answered that he supposed that he might from the direction, consider the dispatch as addressed to himself; but if not, he had directions from Capt. Hardy, to open all packets which might come addressed to him during his absence. He then broke the seals and after perusing your letter, remarked that he was not authorized to give any answer to it, but that the *Triumph* was only in the offing, and he would immediately send it to Capt. Hardy. An officer being called, observed that the *Triumph* was in sight, and received an order to make the signal to her that Capt. Humphries wished to see Capt. Hardy immediately.

After waiting some time, perceiving that the signal was not answered from the *Triumph*, and believing when it should be seen, from the then state of the weather, that it would very probably be late before she would get in, I stated to Capt. Humphries that I could not wait. He observed that the contents of the dispatches to Mr. Erskine were very important; that it was highly desirable that they should be forwarded quickly; that they had already been detained many days, and he wished some mode could be adopted by which they could be forwarded without any further delay. I then stated to him that I would make a provisional arrangement with him for this occasion, to which Capt. Hardy might accede or not when he could see it.



He answered that this would be very agreeable to him, and after some discussion relative to the place and manner where and how his flag should be received, in which, conformably to your orders, I consulted their convenience so far as was compatible with our own. I made an arrangement which I immediately committed to writing and gave him. A copy of this paper you have enclosed.

1807.  
July 28,  
Norfolk

After finishing this business, I left the ship at half-past 10 o'clock A. M. and proceeded up the Bay. Arriving at Point Comfort, I wrote the necessary orders to Major Dudley, inclosing him a copy of the provisional arrangement above stated, and dispatched it to him by Cornet Semple. A copy of my letter to Major Dudley is also enclosed.

The adverse wind and tide prevented my return here until 3 o'clock this morning. I should state, that while at Point Comfort I discovered a ship, which I supposed to be the Triumph, come to an anchor near the Leopard. Some desultory conversation took place between Capt. Humphries, Mr. Semple, and myself while on board the Leopard, which, not being connected with the subject of your orders, I do not here state. It shall be communicated to you verbally, that if deemed important, it may be noticed in any way you please.

In haste, I remain very respectfully,

Your most obed't servant,

LITT'N W. TAZEWELL,

Aid-de-Camp.

Brigadier-General Thomas Mathews.

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CHRISTOPHER GREENUP TO THE GOVERNOR.

In compliance with the request of a numerous meeting of the citizens of this place and its vicinity, I have the honor to enclose your Excellency sundry Resolutions (adopted on the 24th curr't) of that meeting expressive of their abhorrence of the late outrageous conduct of the British on the Flag of the United States. Meetings have been had in several other places, and have adopted similar resolutions.

July 28,  
Frankfort,  
Kentucky

I am, &c.

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JOHN P. HUNGERFORD TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that his orders to the commandants of Regiments to furnish their proportion of a detachment of 500 men prepared to march at a moment's warning had been executed, and that more officers and nearly all the men required were ready. Also desiring to know if the

July 28,  
Leeds

1867.  
July 29.  
Leeds      necessary arms could be furnished the detachment without taking them from the militia so necessary to guarding their own exposed country.

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A. LEWIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 29,  
Montgomery  
County      Soliciting appointment to command a Regiment in the event of war.

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JOHN TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 29,  
Mt. Airy      I had this honor a few days since when I was up the country, for the purpose of organizing an associate volunteer corps of Cavalry, since which I have been without your reply, and write this to beg the favor of you to inform me, *as speedily as convenient*, your Excellency's opinion of the system before proposed, and whether it will be sanctioned by you or not. If it be approved by the Executive and commissions issued accordingly, I should not leave the District; otherwise 'tis my wish to set out in a few days for Boston, which I trust will plead my excuse for troubling you again on this head. Besides this, such is the zeal of those whose patriotism has induced them to associate (for the manner before explained to you), that I should not do them justice were I to be negligent in repeating their wishes to you.

I am, &c.

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TULLY ROBINSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 29,  
Princess  
Anne Co.      Soliciting a commission as commandant of a volunteer corps for Captain John Reade, which he proposes to raise, and which Tully Robinson recommends to be granted.

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G. GREEN TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 29,  
Brunswick  
C. H.      The President of the United States, in consequence of the act of Congress authorizing him to call out into actual service thirty thousand of the Militia of the United States, having put in requisition a detachment from the Militia of this State, and authorized you to accept the services of volunteer companies to complete the proportion of this State, the Militia of the county of Mecklenburg, impatient to become soldiers to avenge the injuries done their country, and anxious to discharge that duty in becoming its soldiers in the hour of necessity and danger, are ready to prove themselves worthy the character of Americans, and that, at every hazard, they are determined to maintain their liberty and

national honor. I am instructed to say to you that, if the Executive of Virginia are authorized by the existing laws of this State to organize a company of volunteers for the county of Mecklenburg, to be denominated a company of Riflemen, a part of the Militia of the county will immediately embody themselves and form a company of that description, to be ready to march at a moment's warning, and to compose a part of the forces now in requisition from this State. Should the body over which you preside think themselves authorized to commission officers to command a company of the description here spoken of, and will accept their services when organized, an immediate answer is necessary that the company may be formed without delay.

I am, &c.

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THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

I hold it my duty to inform your Excellency that the zeal manifested by your fellow-citizens in furnishing the necessary labor for the erection of batteries, has subsided in so great a degree that it has been with much difficulty Fort Norfolk has been put in tolerable order. When you reflect upon the great expense and labor absolutely necessary to be employed in the performance of this work, and that this has been added to many other privations and inconveniences to which the citizens of this particular quarter of the country have been exposed, you will not, I am confident, impute this abatement of exertion to any defect of patriotism or of ardor for the defence of their country, but to that imperious necessity to which all must yield. The manner in which the work at Fort Norfolk was done on the spur of the occasion, and when we were in expectation of an immediate attack, was too slight to promise any considerable defence. The work has therefore undergone various alterations and been much improved. The temporary gun carriages have been discarded, and others are preparing with all possible expedition. A few days more will complete this work, not so well, it is true, as I could wish, but in the best mode practicable with the resources I could command.

For the more perfect security of this fort and town, it will be essentially and indispensably necessary to erect works at Craney Island, at Washington Point, and possibly at some other intermediate points on the river. These I designed to have commenced, but I have been compelled to abandon this project from the want of necessary strength for carrying it on. The troops in present service, your Excellency will readily see, are not calculated to perform duties of this nature, especially under existing circumstances.

I suggest these things to you that some adequate provision may be

1807.  
July 29,  
Brunswick  
C. H.

July 29,  
Norfolk

1807.  
July 29,  
Norfolk

made should you consider it proper to act further upon this subject. I will take the liberty of calling the attention of your Excellency to other points of the last importance to citizens of this quarter of the country, and to the troops generally who may be at any time called into service. Our militia generally is composed of men little acquainted with military duty and not accustomed to the hardships of a soldier's life. It requires some time to instruct them in the performance of those exercises which are all important to be understood, and to habituate them to sustain without injury to themselves the privations and hardships to which they must of necessity be exposed. According to the present system of short reliefs, it will always happen that by the time the first detachment have acquired that information and experience which is so indispensable, they are discharged. New troops are substituted in their places, the same routine is to be gone through again with these, and thus constant murmurs and complaints are kept up among the troops, and the protection of the country is confided to raw and inexperienced soldiers. This being the case, I submit it to the consideration of your Excellency if it will not be better to order out the next relief to do duty for a longer period than has as yet been contemplated, say three months, unless sooner discharged. The troops then, knowing certainly the period of their expected service, will come prepared to stay out the length of time. They will long before their tour of duty expires, become acquainted with what it is necessary for them to learn, and thus many of the inconveniences I have stated, will be avoided and more secure reliance may be placed in our men. To this I will add that the expense to the Government will be greatly diminished, because under the present system much expense is incurred for the troops while they are marching to and from the point of their destination.

The situation of the troops from the Fifty-fourth Regiment, now in service, is peculiar. From this regiment, consisting of 800 men, I have been compelled to detach 500. They are all citizens of Norfolk, chiefly mechanics and persons depending on their own manual labor for the support of themselves and their families.

Much inconvenience is sustained, not only by themselves but by the community generally, from being deprived of the labors of so many useful artizans. Should any attack be made, this is the point where it will probably be attempted, and at any future period the greatest fatigue, hardship, and exertion must be expected from this particular regiment. So circumstanced, it would seem to me better if this detachment could be speedily relieved by new troops drawn from some other quarter; that no considerable detachment should hereafter be drawn from this regiment, but that it should always be held prepared for service at any moment. Besides the necessary guards, we should then have always a reserve, on whom reliance can be placed in case of necessity. Whereas at

# CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS

present, should at any instant be called upon to defend the coast and unprotected and new detachments can be called in from the interior.

If your Excellency shall approve of this arrangement, I would suggest further the expediency of detaching the 500 men who will be required to relieve the detachment from the Fifty-seventh Regiment from the neighbouring brigade, commanded by the Brigadier-General White, Wilks and Pettan. It will be less convenient to draw this detachment from the brigade than to detach a large body from one of them. I cannot draw them from my own brigade under present circumstances. On your Excellency will at once perceive that it would be highly improper for me to call for any force from the three regiments on the Eastern Shore. The two regiments from Norfolk county have already supplied a detachment of 200 men which must be relieved from time to time from those regiments. And the regiment from Princess Anne has furnished a detachment of fifty men which must be relieved in like manner. So that you will see but a small body in addition to these detachments can, under such circumstances, be required from regiments already furnishing such large drafts. I will take the liberty of stating other things for the consideration of your Excellency. From the want of tents and every other article of camp equipage, I have not ventured to encamp any of the men employed in the present service, but have been compelled to billet them in the towns. In this situation, the men are exposed to much expense, which many of them cannot afford. They will acquire habits of dissipation that will be permanently injurious to themselves and their country, and are so scattered that it would be difficult if not impossible to collect them properly in case of a sudden alarm. If these necessary articles could be furnished, all the evils I have enumerated and many others, would be avoided, and the discipline of the soldiers much better preserved. I should then be enabled to encamp the troops where they are most wanted, and thereby to prevent not only much fatigue of marching, but to preserve the health of the soldiers from the attack of those epidemics to which they will soon be exposed if they remain in the towns.

The detachment from the Twentieth Regiment, now on duty at the Cape, being much exposed and totally destitute of every necessary article of camp equipage, I have been constrained to procure ten tents for them, and I have ordered the Quartermaster also to provide canteens and camp kettles for the whole detachment. The troops cannot do without such things if any service is required of them. The tents I shall not provide until further directed by your Excellency.

In my last letter, I stated to your Excellency the reports prevailing here of the intentions of the British to collect their vessels of small draft of water from their several stations at this point. This was but report but its truth seems to be more probable to-day. I have just been in

1807.  
July 29,  
Norfolk

formed that, in addition to the three ships mentioned before, two others have yesterday arrived in Lynnhaven Bay. What they are or what their force, I know not, but I conjecture they are the Indian and Squirrel sloops of war, the former carrying — and the latter — guns. The first of these ships was lately off Charleston, and the other off Cape Henlopen. No attempt, however, indicating hostility has yet been made.

I am, &c.

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C. JOHNSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

July 31,  
Staunton

I have the honor of inclosing to you some recommendations of the County Court for the appointment of militia officers.

My principal object in troubling you with this letter is to explain the cause of my name appearing among the recommended so shortly after having received a commission.

I found it quite impracticable to raise an artillery company at this time, and I thought it very probable that if one could be raised at all it would not be until the time had passed when they might be useful to their country. The spirit of our citizens beat very high for revenge on the British, and I felt disposed to increase its tone. I therefore united myself (and so did the other artillery officers who had been commissioned with me) with a volunteer company of Infantry who were associating to offer their services to the Government. They have chosen their officers for their government whom the County Court have recommended.

They have adopted their own uniform, have elected to be armed with rifles if they can be furnished by the Executive, and have denominated themselves the Staunton Buckskin Riflemen.

They have supposed that volunteer companies were at liberty to choose their own name and uniform and arms, and would be glad to be informed on the subject. They are encouraged to hope that it will be convenient for the Executive to furnish them with Rifles at this time, because they discover that from this Division a number of Riflemen are required by the late order of Council. They are not informed of the number necessary to form a volunteer company, and would be thankful for information. They have already about forty, and have no doubt but that any number which is required will be raised.

If the officers are commissioned, they would be glad to receive any books of regulations or orders of council, or rules of discipline, which the Executive may have for their use. If there are none such, I would acknowledge the obligation of being referred to such books as I could obtain and would be useful in acquiring a knowledge of military duty.

I am, &c.

J. RIDDICK, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Solicits arms for Light Infantry Company of Nansemond county.

1807.  
July 31

ROBERT H. FISHER, RICHARD H. BRADFORD, JAMES JOHNSON, JOSEPH PRENTIS, JR., AND WM. M. POOL TO THE GOVERNOR.

Solicits arms for a company of infantry and one of cavalry nearly full in Nansemond county.

July 31,  
Nansemond

HENRY LEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I found here the governmental packet addressed to me with your Excellency's letter and enclosure.

July 31,  
Shirley

Presuming that it would be highly acceptable to the President, and believing it would be most convenient to our fellow-citizens that the force required should be composed of volunteers in conformity with the act of Congress, I have taken a small circuit in a part of my division to ascertain the probability of accomplishing this object.

My observations lead me to expect, with due exertion, this wished-for result.

By reference to the specification from the D. A. General, the Brigades of my Division generally fall short of a Regiment, and yet give more than a battalion.

I hope we may be permitted to consider the quota of Infantry required from each Brigade as a Reg't. This will, I am sure, accelerate the levy of volunteers, and will only give one Lieut.-Col. Com't more than may be strictly legal, which, by the bye, in newly-raised troops, must be considered beneficial. Will your Excellency be so good as to favour me with your reply by my aid-de-camp, Major Turner, who is charged with this letter and whom I beg leave to make known to your Excellency?

I have the honor, &c.

WM. TATE, FRANCIS PRESTON, JNO. PRESTON, JR., ANDREW RUSSEL, AND WM. TOMSON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Enclosing the patriotic Resolutions of the people of Washington County.

August 2,  
Abingdon

## W. DUDLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

1807.  
August 2.  
Yorktown

I have the honor to inform you that I received by yesterday's mail, yours of the 29th ultimo. Immediately on the receipt of which, I discharged the Militia under my command at Hampton, agreeable to your orders. I left Hampton this morning at 7 o'clock, within a mile of this place I was overtaken by an express from Col. Wray. I enclose to you copies of Col. Wray's letter; the Collectors of Norfolk and Capt. Sir Thomas Hardy's; also the original from the Collector of Norfolk to James Madison, Esq'r. Secretary of State, Washington. As Col. Wray does not conceive himself authorized to act in this business, I shall immediately proceed to Norfolk in order to make some arrangements with the Collector, as he has requested my sentiments on the subject, and also to deliver to General Mathews a letter from Sir Thomas Hardy, which he calls a duplicate of his letter of the 27th July, to Brigadier-General Mathews in answer to his of the 25th of July, inclosed to me. I am in doubt about the correctness of this business. As the troops at Hampton are discharged, I shall recommend to the Collector of Norfolk that the business be arranged and carried on by him and the Collector at Hampton, and I sincerely wish that the inhabitants of Hampton may not compromise the Government by some unlawful act. Sure I am that as the troops from that post is discharged, great difficulty will be found to prevent them if the British boats go there for water, &c.

Any communication that you may in future please to honor me with you will address to this place.

I am, &c.

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HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP TRIUMPH,  
Chesapeake Channel, July 29th, 1807.

SIR:

His Majesty's Ship Columbine, having this moment arrived with dispatches from the Commander-in-Chief to the Envoy Extraordinary at Washington, and also letters for His Majesty's Consul at Norfolk, I have therefore directed her Commander, Captain Bradshaw, to proceed immediately to Hampton Roads, consistent with the terms of the President's Proclamation, to deliver and forward the above mentioned dispatches, and after having executed that service, he is directed to complete his provisions and water, (which he states to be much in want of) in order to convey back the British Minister's answer. I have also the honor to enclose you the duplicate of my letter of the 27th inst, to the Brigadier-General Mathews, in answer to his of the 25th of this month.

I have, &c.

To Major Dudley, &c., &c.

T. M. HARDY.

A copy.

W. DUDLEY,

Late Major Commandant at Hampton.



COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, NORFOLK, August 2nd, 1867

1867  
August 2.  
Yorktown

DEAR SIR:

I have sent by Captain Ham a letter addressed to you from the Columbine sloop of war, with dispatches, claiming the protection of the President's proclamation as a vessel with public dispatches. My duty is assigned by the proclamation and law, but it is probable that you have some instructions on this subject: if you have, Captain Ham will superintend the execution of them, as it is in the way of his duty. Water and vegetables I suppose will be supplied him from your station, the other provisions from this place. I shall be glad of your instructions on this subject. I do not like the business well, as I apprehend too many may come in with public dispatches and get partial supplies for the ships in the bay.

I am, very respectfully, your obt. serv't.

THOMAS NEWTON, Collector.

Major Wm. Dudley, Hampton.

I have seen General Mathews. He expects some dispatches are enclosed for him in the packet for you; requests, if any, you will forward them to him. If these vessels anchor in Wm. Brodie's District, they were immediately under his direction; the cutter will be the best way of communication. Captain Ham will superintend the delivery of the supplies.

Yours,

T. NEWTON.

I refer you to the law passed March, 1805, for preserving peace in our harbors.

A copy:

W. DUDLEY,

Late Major Commandant, Hampton.

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HENRY E. COLEMAN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Enclosed you have resolutions from two companies of militia attached to the 84th Regiment tendering their services to Government as volunteers. The Light Infantry company is composed chiefly of young men completely armed for action and commanded by active young officers, the sons of Revolutionary soldiers. The Rifle company is commanded by very active officers, but they have no rifles. I trust, sir, the Executive will find it convenient to put rifles into their hands at an early period.

August 3,  
Halifax Co.

I am, &c.

## H. DEARBORN TO THE GOVERNOR.

1807.  
August 3,  
War  
Department Your Excellency's letter of the 31st ult. has been duly received. That part of it relative to the pay of the militia having been submitted to the accountant of this department, his statement on that subject is herewith enclosed.

The sooner the muster and pay-rolls are forwarded, the fewer mistakes will probably occur, and on the receipt of correct rolls, measures will be taken without delay for making the payments.

On the subject of tents, camp kettles, &c., I find it difficult to give a definitive answer previous to the receipt of the amount of such expenses, with a statement of facts as to the mode of obtaining the articles and the disposition of them when the militia were discharged. As a general principle, when the militia are called into actual service by the President of the United States, their camp equipage must undoubtedly be provided at the expense of the General Government, and, as far as circumstances will permit, provided under the direction of the Executive of the General Government.

I am, &c.

## DANIEL WEISIGER TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 3,  
Chesterfield  
County Soliciting the use of two field pieces for the artillery company under his command.

## H. DEARBORN TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 3,  
War  
Department I am directed by the President of the United States to urge on the Governors of the respective States, the importance of encouraging by all the means they possess, such volunteer associations as are contemplated and authorized by the act of Congress passed the 24th day of February last, and when organized to be received as a part of the quota of militia recently required to be held in readiness at the shortest notice.

The present situation of our country calls loudly for the patriotic exertions of its citizens, in the prompt adoption of such measures as will most effectually enable us to meet the result of a late event which appears to menace its peace. Under such circumstances, it must be presumed that, with due encouragement, the whole number of volunteers contemplated by the above mentioned act, may be induced to tender their services to their country; and your Excellency will readily perceive the importance of such a body of men at the actual commencement of war, whose term of service will afford ample time for raising and organizing a regular force for taking the field in place of such of them as may not be inclined to become a part of the regular army.

As it must be highly probable that such volunteer corps will be composed of our most active, intelligent, patriotic and spirited young citizens, they will undoubtedly in the event of a war, stand on high ground as candidates for officers in the regular army, whenever such an army shall be considered necessary; and from the well known military ardor which pervades all parts of our country, there can be no doubt of the readiness of a sufficient number of our spirited citizens to offer their services to their country at the present time.

1807.  
August 3,  
War  
Department

I am, &c.

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GEORGE WRAY TO WILLIAM DUDLEY.

I have this moment received the enclosed packages by Capt. Ham, of the revenue cutter. Not conceiving myself at liberty to open them, have forwarded them on to you.

August 3,  
Hampton

Yours, &c.

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THOS. MATTHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

In pursuance of your Excellency's instructions of the 28th ultimo, I dispatched Major Tazewell the first Inst. to the commanding officer of the British Squadron in our waters, with the five persons alluded to. I do myself the honor to enclose a copy of my letter to the British officer, Tazewell's orders, and his report of the occurrences that passed while on board, with a copy of two letters from Sir Thomas Hardy. Your Excellency will see that the mode of communication submitted by me has been rejected. I am sorry to observe that the Boat in which the British officers and seamen were overtaken, has been so much abused and injured by the citizens in whose care she was lodged, that it is impossible to repair her.

August 3,  
Norfolk

I shall purchase one of the same size and make a tender of her unless forbid by your Excellency.

Your Excellency's Letter of the 30th ultimo never reached me until this day. I have in obedience thereto, issued the necessary orders. From various sources I have received information of two Pilot Boats, supposed to belong to the Bay, being suspected of supplying the British Squadron or attending on them with a design to violate the restrictions of Government. I have, in order to ascertain the fact, engaged a fast-sailing Boat for the purpose of hovering in their neighborhood, and when possible to pursue and overtake those who may be observed carrying on any communication with the restricted ships. This Boat has been engaged but two days, and will be immediately discharged.

1807.  
August 3,  
Norfolk

I am apprehensive that in the course of my short command, I have granted indulgencies and given countenance to some expences not warranted by military rule or the laws of the Union. I can only offer in extenuation, the sudden and unexpected call of the Troops and the strong desire I felt to induce them to submit with cheerfulness to the necessity of a service obviously designed to support and maintain the national honor.

Major Tazewell's Report will inform your Excellency of the strength and position of the Squadron. I shall write more fully to-morrow.

I am, &c.

HEAD QUARTERS, NORFOLK, *Aug. 1st, 1807.*

SIR THOS. HARDY, &c.:

Sir—The President of the United States, in consequence of a late occurrence, having interdicted all intercourse with, and supplies to His Britanic Majesty's ships of war remaining in the waters of the United States, and two of your officers and three of your seamen having made an attempt to infringe the restriction so imposed, by endeavouring to procure supplies, and having been taken by one of my officers as violating the rules established by my Government, I have it in command to return to you the officers and men with the Boat, arms, &c., taken with them. You will give me leave to observe, Sir, that considering the situation of my Government as it relates to the Squadron under your command, that this act can be considered in no other light than a matter of favor, and by no means to be urged as a precedent in any future violation of the rules established by the Government of the United States. The Boat, &c., shall be forwarded to you at an early day.

I have directed Major Tazewell to attend you with this. He is fully authorized by me to conclude with you the mode of communication I had the honor to submit to you in my last.

I have the honor to be with due respect, Sir,

Your most obed't servant,

THOS. MATHEWS.

HEAD QUARTERS, NORFOLK, *August 1st, 1807.*

MAJOR TAZEWELL:

Sir—With the dispatch directed to Sir Thomas Hardy or the commanding officer of his Britanic Majesty's Squadron in Lynhaven Bay, you will immediately proceed with a Flag and deliver the same as directed. You will have in charge the two officers and three seamen taken some time since, which you will likewise deliver to Sir Thomas Hardy.

I need not remark to you on this occasion, the communication from

Government made known to you I hold sufficient. Having received no answer to my last Letter respecting communication, you will endeavor to ascertain and fix the mode on the principle before mentioned. I wish it ascertained to prevent misunderstanding between us. Capt. Saunders, of the artillery, will accompany you.

I am, Sir, your most obed't serv't,

THOS. MATHEWS.

1807.  
August 3,  
Norfolk

HEAD QUARTERS, Norfolk, *Aug. 3rd, 1807.*

SIR:

On the 1st inst. I proceeded as you directed to the British Squadron with the prisoners delivered to my charge.

I did not arrive at Cape Henry until about 12 o'clock that night, and not choosing for many reasons to board any of the ships at that late hour, I ordered my vessel to come to an anchor at a convenient spot, intending to go on board the Triumph in the morning. Early in the morning of yesterday, Capt. Hardy sent his boat on board of me with a polite message, similar to that I before received, making a tender of his boat if I would use it to come on board his ship. I accepted the offer and proceeded as you directed. Arriving on board the Triumph, I delivered up the officers and men to Capt. Hardy and handed him your dispatch. He enquired if you had not received any communication from him in reply to your last letter. I answered that you had not, previously to my leaving your quarters on the preceding day. He stated that he had written an immediate answer so soon as it was received by him, and had also forwarded a duplicate a few days since by the Columbine Brig. Copies of these papers he shewed me in his letter book. On my repeating that the originals had not been received when I left you, he directed copies to be again made out and then made up a dispatch which you will receive herewith directed to yourself. This dispatch he stated to me, contained nothing but copies of the papers I have above stated, that a reply to your letter then received should be given on this day, or at the earliest possible period afterwards. He said he thought he had cause to complain of the style used by you in your communications with him, that no act of *his* he hoped, had made such a style necessary, but that whatever style you might choose or feel it your duty to adopt, it would not alter the course he had decided to pursue, nor should it induce him to imitate your example.

Entering upon the subject of the contemplated arrangements as to future necessary communication which I was authorized by you to make, he requested of me to state that mode which I approved of best. I replied that his convenience so far as it was compatible with our own, should be my guide upon that subject. That I had before suggested a mode which seemed to meet the approbation of his second officer, and if

1807.  
August 3,  
Norfolk

there was no objection on his part, I would again propose that, but if their was any I wished him to declare it. He replied if he understood my meaning, this proposed arrangement comprehended no other communications but those from the officers of the British Government to its minister at Washington. I answered I intended to be so understood. Then Sir, said he, it is an arrangement to which I can never agree. I have nothing to communicate to Mr. Erskine, nor can I have; but if I had the mode of communication which I have always seen practiced on such occasions, and which to me appears most proper, is for the Naval officer to communicate with the most convenient Consul of his nation, whose duty it is to extract from his communication, such as are necessary for the Minister to see, and his replies if required to be made known to us, are forwarded in like manner.

I have private and individual reasons for not departing myself from this system, and if you can make such an arrangement as will enable me to adhere to it, I shall be much pleased, but if not, there can be no occasion for arranging any other. I answered that the Proclamation of the President of the U. S., was understood by me as interdicting all intercourse between his Squadron and the British Consul at Norfolk. That although the case of dispatches from the British Government was excepted from the operation of the Proclamation, yet I understood those dispatches to be such as Governments forwarded, and as it was well understood that a Consul was a mere commercial agent, having no connection with his Government but through her Minister, I could not conceive that any other communication could be permitted but those I had stated. If he wished an arrangement made to facilitate this kind of intercourse, I would enter upon the subject with him at once, and he would find me much disposed to consult his accommodation in its adoption, but I did not feel myself authorized to extend it any further than I had stated. I concluded by telling him that these were only my own impressions; that I had no specific instructions from you upon this subject, and therefore it was possible I might be wrong.

Thinking as I did, however, I could not then enter upon the arrangement of any plan with him, except for this single object. If a more extensive communication was desired, I could only refer him to you for your decision, and in the letter which he proposed writing to you he had better mention this subject. He said he believed he would do so, and the subject was then dropped.

In the course of our conversation, Capt. Hardy stated to me what his private reasons were for not communicating directly with Mr. Erskine. That he had seen a letter from Mr. Erskine to Capt. Douglass which he considered most improper, and that he never could agree to subject himself to the risk of being mortified by having such a letter addressed to himself.

He did not state explicitly, but I inferred from what he did say, that the part of your letter with which he was dissatisfied, was that in which you have reserved to yourself the right of judging as to the propriety of forwarding any communications which he might send even under a flag. I inferred this from his repeatedly declaring that he should feel himself much to blame were he voluntarily to permit himself to be placed in a situation where he might be exposed to the mortification of having his letters returned to him. He stated that he would forward his answer to your letter in the mode proposed by me, to which in this instance he could see no objection unless in the circumstance of its being sent under a flag. That a flag was the evidence of a state of war between the two countries finding it necessary to use it, a state which he did not consider as existing between our respective countries at this time; but if we chose to require it, he would pursue it.

While on board his ship, Capt. Hardy remarked to me that there were some black men who had come on board the Triumph a few nights before. That they stated they were free men, but it was probable they were slaves. That he should have set them on shore immediately, but for two considerations: the one that he did not wish to expose his men to the attack of ours, who might not know their object in approaching the shore; the other, that if these men were really runaway slaves, his setting them on shore would be only giving them an opportunity to escape from their masters. That he had therefore kept them on board and should continue to do so until they were demanded by some proper authority. He also stated there were several seamen then in the squadron, who averred themselves to be American citizens. That some of them he was disposed to think were so, but that he could not release them until they were demanded in the proper manner. I inquired what he considered to be the proper manner. He answered that he could not tell certainly; that it was a business which had generally been adjusted by the ministers or consuls, who were the proper persons to judge of the evidence of citizenship, and that when they had decided upon this point he had always obeyed their request to deliver up the men. That he should still pursue the same course now. While I remained on board, he stated to me that some of these men were anxious to communicate with their friends on shore, and had written some letters, which he would give me if I would receive them. I answered that I would do so, and before I left the ship he gave me two open letters from two seamen, one addressed to Robert Pearse, the uncle of the writer, in Marblehead, the other directed to the Collector of Charleston, both begging that evidence of their citizenship might be furnished in order to procure their discharge. These letters I have, and shall dispose of them as you please to direct.

The reception which I met with from Sir Thomas Hardy was in all

1807.  
August 3,  
Norfolk

1807.  
August 3.  
Norfolk

respects worthy of that high character which I had been before disposed to believe he merited.

I am, very respectfully, dear sir, your mo. obed't serv't.

LITT'N W. TAZEVELL.

P. S.—I have written in such haste that I have omitted to state to you the present force of the British in our waters. It is as follows: The Columbine, brig, of sixteen guns, in Hampton Roads; the Triumph and Leopard off Cape Henry, and the Cleopatra, frigate, in signal distance in the offing, at sea. Besides these ships, Sir Thomas Hardy stated to me that he expected daily the arrival of Admiral Berkeley or Sir Robert Laurie, or both of them, and mentioned this circumstance as an additional reason why he was indisposed to form any such arrangement as that I proposed, because as his command would probably not continue more than a week longer, he did not wish to trammel those who would succeed him.

In haste, yours, &c.

LITT'N W. TAZEVELL.

To Brigadier-General Matthews.

#### THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 4.  
Norfolk

I have this day received a letter from the commanding officer of the British squadron, a copy of which I have enclosed.

In consequence of the communication made by Capt. Hardy respecting his possession of supposed Americans, I have determined to send down Capt. Taylor, with such evidence as I can procure, to make an effort to obtain the liberation of the poor fellows. This determination of mine has been aided by an application of several of our citizens to obtain for them slaves said to be on board the British ship Triumph.

In pursuance of the propositions contained in Captain Hardy's letter respecting the communication to be observed by flags, I have authorized Capt. Taylor to adjust that business finally. I will thank your Excellency to point out the mode you would wish to be carried on after my removal from the present service. I shall make the necessary communication as soon as I have received your orders to Major Newton.

I have the honor to enclose your Excellency a statement of the arms received and of their distribution, as made me by my Quarter Master. The receipts of the Commandants are procured and shall shortly be forwarded. The cartouch boxes are in such a state that they cannot be distributed without repair. I wish your instructions on this head.

From the report of Major Tazewell you will see that it may reasonably be expected that a reinforcement to the British squadron is daily expected.



They change their situation daily in consequence of short cruises. No indication of hostility, except remaining in and bringing to vessels in our waters.

1807.  
August 4,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP TRIUMPH,  
Chesapeake Channel, *August 3rd, 1807.*

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st Instant, delivered to me by Major Tazewell. The Midshipmen and three men that improvidently quitted his Majesty's Dispatch Schooner *Hamilton*, for the amusement of fishing, at the same time returned to this ship, and may I request of you, Sir, to return my sincere thanks to Captain Robert Taylor for his very kind attention to those young men whilst they remained under his care.

I have pointed out to Major Tazewell my ideas of the best mode of communication, and I beg leave to repeat it to you, which I trust you will approve of. There are some men now in the *Triumph* that call themselves subjects of America; it being my intention to restore them to their families, provided they can prove their citizenship, and as I consider that communication should pass through the British Consul, if it meets your approbation, I will send one of his Majesty's Dispatch Schooners off Hampton Creek with a Lieutenant from this Ship, who will deliver my dispatches to an officer appointed by you to receive them, and the Boat shall return for an answer in one or two days, as may be judged right by the officer residing at Hampton.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect,

Sir, your most obed't Servant.

T. M. HARDY.

To Brigadier-Gen'l Mathews, Commandant-in-Chief, &c., &c.

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W. DUDLEY TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the honor to inform you that I yesterday returned from Norfolk, where I went for the purpose of making some arrangement with the Collector of that Port for supplying the Columbine sloop of war with necessary provisions agreeable to the President's Proclamation, and have the pleasure of saying she will be supplied from Norfolk altogether, and that she will not be permitted to send to Hampton for water and vegetables. as the Collector at Norfolk at first contemplated, by which means I hope we shall get clear of her upon good terms.

August 6,  
Yorktown

She demands four months' provisions, but the Collector has determined to supply her only from day to day till he can hear from our

1807.  
August 6,  
Yorktown

Government as to the quantity they may approve of. There is no doubt but we shall have a number of these fellows coming into our Ports bearing dispatches for the express purpose of getting refreshments for the Squadron at the Capes.

I am, &c.

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JOEL LEFTWICH TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 6,  
Bedford

Orders have recently been received by Gen'l Martin conformable to a requisition of the United States, requiring him to take effectual measures to organize, arm, and equip according to Law and hold in readiness to march at a moment's warning, 600 Infantry, including officers, 71 cavalry officers included, and 35 artillery, including officers from the twelfth Brigade, which orders will no doubt be punctually observed as far as the Law will authorize.

Respecting the Infantry, arming is the difficulty, which you will see by reference to the Militia Law of 1806, Sec. 1, the public arms being now in the hands of the Light Infantry cannot be drawn out without a Law authorizing the same or a special order from the Governor to that effect, which no doubt would be sanctioned by the Legislature on an emergency like the present. With respect to the Cavalry and Artillery, Light Infantry, &c., you will please advert to the 11th Sec. of the Militia Law of 1804, which points out the mode of their being called into actual service. As there is no light Infantry required to be furnished, would they be rece'd as Volunteers in place of Infantry? From the patriotic spirit that seems to pervade the State, I flatter myself that a sufficiency of volunteers will offer their service to supply the quota of this Brigade. When I act officially, I wish to act Legally, and would take it as a singular favor, Sir, if you would advise me as early as possible on this momentous occasion.

I am, &c.

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HENRY LEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 6,  
Hermitage

Transmitting the following inquiry from B. G. Hungerford: Whether the militia of Gloucester and Mathews counties shall be exempt from a second Draft as from the first in case it is ordered?

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THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 7,  
Norfolk

Since my letter of the 4th Inst. nothing material has transpired. Capt. Taylor, after being delayed by Calms and contrary winds, arrived

about 12 o'clock. He has not had time to make his report so as to enable me to forward it to your Excellency by this mail. I will forward it by the next Post.

1807,  
August 7,  
Norfolk

Among the variety of objections stated as to the mode of communication to be observed, Captain Hardy objects to his Letters for the Consuls being delivered unsealed. From the instructions I have received, I can not hold myself warranted in permitting such communication unless it be under restriction. The Letters to the British Legation are directed to be forwarded as usual, but I cannot view the office of Consul in any manner attached to the Legation. Captain Hardy, in his personal communication with my officers, as your Excellency will observe by the Reports heretofore sent, has declared his determined resolution not to correspond with Erskine, and seems that it may be permitted him to address the Consul without his restriction.

I cannot grant it without express instructions, yet I will take the liberty to say that I feel it would be a means of releasing some of our seamen whose situation will not permit them to produce the proof necessary to establish their right to citizenship. But will not this be departing from a principle we ought to adhere to? I think it will.

Five negroes were delivered to Capt. Taylor—two of them identified by the owners; the other three I have ordered to jail under a commitment from the civil magistrate. One of them, it is said, belongs to Mr. Wm. Roane, who lived at or near City Point; another to a black man by the name of Matt Anderson, and who is a Blacksmith in Richmond, and has been absent some time. The other is sullen and gives no account of himself. They will be advertised and described. No answer to my last from Sir Thomas Hardy respecting the seamen. I hope in my next to be able to say something certain on this head.

The *Triumph* and *Columbine* only without the Cape. The rest of the Squadron supposed looking out for Admiral Berkeley, who, it is said, is hourly expected.

I am, &c.

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CAPT. TAYLOR'S REPORT.

HEAD QUARTERS, Norfolk, *August 7th, 1807.*

SIR:

In obedience to your orders of the 5th instant, I set out from this place at mid-day, accompanied by Major Winston, with the expectation that I should arrive on board the *Triumph* so early in that day as to enable me to adjust the points of my mission and depart on my return that night. It soon, however, became calm, and the tide heading us at Point Comfort late in the afternoon, it was deemed impossible by the pilot to proceed, and we therefore put into Hampton about sunset.

1807.  
August 7,  
Norfolk

While at Hampton I was applied to by Mr. Cowper, who represented to me that he had been told by some of the persons accompanying me that I was on my way to the British squadron. That one of his slaves had absconded about five months ago, and had been seen (as he was told) on board one of the boats of the Bellona, while that vessel was lying in Hampton Roads. That he was desirous of accompanying me for the purpose of recovering the slave if I would reclaim him. I stated to him that his case was not known to you, and was of course not explicitly provided for by my instructions, but that I was so well possessed of your opinion on that subject that I should not hesitate to use my exertions to procure all slaves belonging to any of our citizens, and that I would willingly take him (Mr. C.) with me and advance his claim to the utmost of my power. He agreed to go with me and did so.

At 2 in the morning we left Hampton, and arrived near the Triumph about sunrise. Believing that hour to be unsuitable to enter on any business, I had resolved to remain on board our flag vessel till after breakfast. A boat, however, was soon sent from the Triumph, and a message from Sir Thomas Hardy was delivered by a midshipman, stating that Sir Thomas H. requested that officer on board the flag would do him the favor to accept his boat and come on board the Triumph. The invitation was accepted, and Major Winston and I immediately went on board. We were received by Sir Thomas Hardy at the gangway and conducted to his cabin.

After a few general remarks I stated to the Commodore that I was charged by you to deliver a dispatch, which I delivered to him. Having perused it, he inquired if I had no other dispatches. I replied that I had some, which were delivered to me by you, which I understood were from the British Consul, and related to some of the points mentioned in the dispatch I had already delivered. I then handed him the other dispatches with which I had been charged.

After perusing them he showed me a list which had been sent down by Col. Hamilton, corresponding with that with which you furnished me, of seamen said to be on board his ship who were American citizens, adding that he had no wish to detain any one who was really an American, because he believed it not only wrong in itself to do so, but it was also impolitic, as such persons made his crew dissatisfied with their situation.

I expressed my pleasure at the frank avowal of a principle which I believed would admit of no doubt when properly examined. He immediately called an officer, gave him the list, and desired that he would see who of the persons named were on board his ship. After the officer had departed, the conversation was continued, in the course of which Capt. Hardy repeatedly stated the general principle before mentioned, and seemed to admit that such of the persons as he believed to be Americans should be instantly delivered up, and that the others should be delivered when the proper proof should be received.

The conversation then turned on the restitution of fugitive slaves, and he expressed on this subject the same ideas reported by Major Tazewell in his communication of the third instant. I replied that the motives which had led him to resolve not to put them on shore from his boat, were thought to be proper. That I had brought with me persons who would probably identify some of them; that I wished to set on foot an inquiry as to others who had absconded some time ago, and particularly named Cowper's and one of Mr. Frederick Armistead's. I added that our laws required of all free negroes the exhibition of certain certificates, the absence of which would furnish evidence that they were slaves. He at once stated that he believed that those who had lately come on board were all slaves, tho' they had asserted differently, and should render them all to me whether identified or not, and that he would cheerfully give up all others who on inquiry might be found on board.

1807.  
August 7,  
Norfolk

I had carefully avoided all discussion respecting the mode of communication, believing that some disagreement would probably arise on that point, and fearing that it might affect the two other more important objects which I was to endeavour to obtain. The discussion now turned on that subject. The letter from the Secretary of State to the Mayor, which you put into my hands at the moment of my departure, connected with your verbal instructions, seemed to impose on me the necessity of allowing no communication to pass unsealed but to the legation, and I did not deem the Consul a member of the legation.

He advanced on this point the ideas he had maintained with Major Tazewell, that it was not usual for naval commanders to communicate with the Minister directly, but always through the Consul—that he was not disposed to depart from this practice in any case, but particularly now as he had personal reasons for adhering to it in respect to Mr. Erskine. I replied that communications to the Minister, whether direct or enclosed to the Consul, would be admitted, but in the latter case, the communication to the Consul must be unsealed.

He seemed much dissatisfied with the idea of sending letters unsealed. Stated that he did not intend to correspond with the Consul on any subject which he was desirous to conceal, but that there would be an impropriety in corresponding on these terms; that his according to them, would probably subject him to the censure of his superior officer, and that he could not therefore enter into any arrangement with such restriction. I represented that he would readily discover that any rule adopted by us on the subject, should be bottomed on general principles, without relation to the particular character of the officers on whom it might at first operate—that the rule at first adopted here would probably be insisted on as a precedent for future cases here and elsewhere, and at all events, would render the adoption of a different one hereafter, particularly unpleasant and dangerous; and that a just regard to our security, if the

1807.  
August 7,  
Norfolk

present misunderstanding should unfortunately terminate in a war, or commanders less liberal should be on our coast, would at once prove the propriety of the restriction which was insisted on. He seemed to admit the propriety of these remarks, but observed that he hoped that his whole conduct had evinced a disposition the most friendly, and that he should continue to pursue the same friendly deportment in all his acts in relation to the U. S., while he continued on the station, unless actual war existed; expressed a wish that the French ships were gone, (intimating that they alone occasioned his detention in our waters,) and said he expected some display of confidence and friendly deportment on our part to correspond with his own conduct. After ineffectually presenting the subject in a variety of shapes, I at last frankly told him that my instructions and yours, left me no discretion on this point, and that the restriction could not be yielded.

He then observed that until this was satisfactorily arranged, nothing could be done in the two other points, particularly as to the seamen, as the communications preparatory to a discharge must be with the Consul. I had apprehended this, and had therefore purposely avoided discussing the subject of communication till we had understood the mode of adjusting the two others. I endeavoured to shew that the subjects were in themselves distinct and unconnected; that having agreed to the two other points we ought not to forbear performing acts of essential justice, respecting which we concurred, because we could not agree on another isolated point, and that, too, of mere —; that the suspension of intercourse could not be considered an act of offence, inasmuch as it was a mere rule of police indisputably belonging to all nations, and one to which we had reluctantly resorted, as appeared from the Proclamation, rather to prevent irritations which might increase the difficulty of an amicable settlement, than with a view to increase resentments; that it was at last doubtful whether the mode of intercourse proposed by me was not as liberal as under existing circumstances could be expected. This subject was pressed by me in a discussion of several hours in every shape which I could imagine, and with a zeal even importunate. I could, however, succeed only in separating the case of the slaves from that of the communication, and 5 were delivered up, including not only those which were identified, but one other who has been absent for 7 years from his master. Of this list I had no knowledge. He was surrendered by Capt. Hardy of his own accord. One other remains on board. He had concealed himself after I went on board, and though diligently sought, could not be found. Capt. Hardy assured me he should be sent up by an early conveyance.

Finding that we could not agree on the subject of communication, I proposed that it should not be considered as definitely rejected, but waived for the present, as thereby it would be open for future discussion,

and that the restriction should be acceded to in a temporary measure, which I was about to propose. This was acceded to, and a note prepared by me stating the place, &c., a copy of which I gave to him. I send it herewith. It *was purposely omitted* to state that his dispatches sent in that way should be unsealed, but that is distinctly understood between us. He opposed the use of a flag of *Truce*, alleging that it implied hostility, which he disclaimed, and that it produced among his people, as well as ours, sentiments and reflections not warranted by the present state of the Countries, and which he hoped there would never be occasion to execute. I approved the sentiment, and as the term *Flag* only is used in your instructions, I adopted the signal mentioned in the note.

1807.  
August 7,  
Norfolk

The discussion between us was frequently suspended and resumed. During one of the intervals, the officer to whom the list was given, returned and reported that none of the persons named in that list were on board, but that there were several from Commodore Douglass' ship, respecting whom there had been some claim set up, and he handed Capt. Hardy a list. This was before the written arrangement was made, but after it had been proposed. The men I requested to examine, with a view to acquire such information as would assist in furnishing proof of their title to the American character. This was at once acceded to by Capt. H., who said he would cheerfully allow all inquiries which might lead to that object, and that he regretted that by refusing such a communication as he must have with the Consul prior to their discharge, he should be precluded from doing all that he desired. They were all mustered on the deck, and, in presence of Capt. H., his officers and crew, were interrogated by me. Their names and their replies will appear by an exhibit accompanying this report, marked B.

In the list you gave me, was the name of William (there called John) Jones. Capt. Hardy told me that he had been on board the *Columbine*, then in Hampton Roads; that orders had been given for his discharge, and had, as he imagined, been already executed; but that he would give me a note to Capt. Bradshaw directing his delivery to me, if not already dismissed. This note I received shortly before my departure.

In the course of the morning, many remarks were made of a general nature, which, not being connected with the immediate subject of your order, are not reported in writing, though verbally detailed to you this morning. I cannot but say that all Capt. Hardy's general remarks in relation to the situation of the two countries, indicated a most liberal, frank and philanthropick mind, and evinced nothing like political or personal hostility. To Major W. and me he was in the greatest degree polite and respectful. We left his ship at 1 P. M.

At 10 at night we reached the *Columbine*. I went on board and delivered Capt. Hardy's note. Capt. Bradshaw said that Jones had been

1807.  
August 7,  
Norfolk

discharged. In the course of our conversation, he spoke (apparently accidentally) of a person claiming to be an American, then on board. I deemed it my duty to probe the subject, if possible, and desired to see the man. My request was complied with. His examination led to that of others, until I discovered that there are five persons of whose claims to the native American character I have little doubt. As he said in an early part of our conversation that he could do nothing without the sanction of Capt. Hardy, I forebore to make any demand of them. I refer you to my minute C for details as to the examination.

The rest of my conversation with Capt. Bradshaw I have verbally communicated.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant.

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THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 10,  
Norfolk

Yesterday about 3 o'clock a ship supposed to be the *Leopard*, joined the *Triumph*. They remain in the usual anchorage near Cape Henry. Nothing attempted by them that indicates hostility. I received a letter from Sir Thomas Hardy yesterday. I now enclose a copy. Your Excellency will see by this letter that they expect to correspond with the Consul without restriction, and for this purpose detain our people. They have restored one, an old Scotchman, many years settled in this country, and who has a family. I like not such frequent communication. I have not as yet answered it. The hope of relieving some of our countrymen and of obtaining the negroe mentioned in Capt. Hardy's letter, will induce me to send down to-morrow in the mode prescribed by the conditional arrangement entered into by Capt. Taylor.

I am, &c.

HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP *TRIUMPH*,  
Chesapeake Channel, *August 8th, 1807.*

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant by Capt. Taylor, who I have no doubt has made you acquainted with my ideas on the mode of communication, and which I trust you will accede to. The slave that was missing the other day is now found, and will be delivered up to any person authorized to receive him. Dougal McDougal, an American citizen, is also landed by this conveyance, and the other men will be sent to Norfolk as soon as Consul Hamilton forwards to me a sufficient proof of their being citizens of the United States. I take this opportunity of returning two boats, to be claimed by the proper owners, which have been picked up by this ship.

I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, sir,

Your obed't servant,

T. M. HARDY.

Brigadier-General Mathews, Commander-in-Chief, &c., &c.



HENRY LEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

I received a letter some days past, asking me to tender to your Excellency, Brigadier White's services as a General officer from my Division should that Division furnish one. 1807. August 10, Richmond

I conform to the request of this gentleman, altho' contrary to my practice, because in his letter to me he appears to confide in my noticing his services in the 94 expedition.

This officer served upon that occasion as a field officer from this Brigade, and conducted himself much to the satisfaction of his superiors so far as fell under my observation.

He stands second among the Brigadiers of the Division; General Mathews being the senior; in consequence whereof he was summoned by me to take the field under Major-General Morgan, who being the eldest Major-General, Commanded the Virginia troops then called into service.

I have received applications from some of the commandants of the quota now required from the 4th Division, to permit them to select their regimental staff otherwise than from the line when characters more suitable shall present themselves, and are willing to do duty for the sum allowed by Congress. Raw troops require the attention of all their officers, and therefore I cheerfully will grant the request should your Excellency not disapprove.

The regulations of Congress exhibit not this deviation from their rules, altho' they give but a small additional stipend for such services.

I have, &c.

THOS. WHITE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting appointment as Brigadier-General in the quota of militia to be raised under Act of Congress of the 18th of April, 1806. August 10

TALIAFERRO HUNTER TO JOHN HEATH.

Soliciting arms for his company of Artillery amounting to 46 men. August 10, Essex Co.

JOHN CROPPER, JR., AND THOS. PARKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Soliciting arms and ammunition for their respective Regiments in Accomack county. August 12, Accomack Co.

## JAMES McDOWELL TO THE GOVERNOR.

1807.           Soliciting a commission in the Rifle Regiment to be raised in the State,  
 August 12,   or in any Infantry of the State to be raised under the requisition of Con-  
 Rockbridge County   gress.

## THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 13,   At seven o'clock this morning a ship anchored near Cape Henry bearing  
 Norfolk   ing a flag at her fore-top gallant mast head. The wind being light, she  
 came to some distance from the Triumph and Leopard, fired a gun and  
 dispatched two boats to the Squadron in Lynhaven.

The flag at the fore-top gallant mast is the Badge of a Vice-Admiral,  
 and I suppose it is Admiral Berkeley, particularly as it has been reported  
 to me that two ships were seen in the offing about 9 A. M. I shall  
 endeavor to ascertain who and what they are by the next mail.

## TH. TURNER TO MAJOR-GENERAL LEE.

August 14   Pursuantly with your directions, I have communicated to Colonel  
 Redman and Majors Fleet and Camp (the two former personally and the  
 latter by Letter), that they were designated as the field officers of the  
 Regiment to be drawn from the 14th Brigade. Redman and Fleet  
 promptly met the requisition, and will hold themselves prepared for  
 service.

Camp will communicate with you by post. I have also written to  
 Sam'l Lewis (who was from home), and notified your will to him; from  
 what I learn, I entertain no doubt of his ready acceptance, and accord-  
 ingly I consider him as engaged. I am happy to say to you that in my  
 passage through the 14th Brigade, but one uninterrupted aspect pre-  
 sented itself—an aspect exhibiting, with all classes, an ardor knowing no  
 bounds, and fully inspiring the hope that every soldier in the Virginia  
 Quota will be a soldier, not mechanically made so by law, but from  
 volition.

I have seen the Brigadier and Col.-Com'd't together; have communi-  
 cated to them what I have done, and aided in arrangement for the  
 future.

Will you have the goodness to investigate the question of an allow-  
 ance to your aids for their late tour, and give me the result by post to  
 Fauquier Ct. House? The claim of compensation, or at least of retribu-  
 tion, is certainly founded in justice, and I look to justice for its recog-  
 nition.

I am, &c.

THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

I do myself the honor to enclose the papers referred to in Capt. Taylor's Report forwarded to your Excellency some days since.

1807.  
August 15,  
Norfolk

Mr. Lee, Mayor of the Borough, has placed in my hands a letter that came to him by post, enclosing one directed to Sir Thomas Hardy. The manner in which this letter has been sent to the Mayor, does not enable me to say from whom it comes. It has the mark of the New York post-office and the seal of the British Consul's office on it. It is a large packet, and one of those prohibited. I shall detain it until your Excellency's pleasure shall be made known to me.

The British Squadron remain in the same state as reported yesterday. No further account of the Admiral.

I am, &c.

*List of Persons Examined on Board the Triumph.*

John Barry—Says he was born at Cove of Cork, and never in America before.

John Frances—Says he was born in Brazil, and never before here.

Joseph Lewis—Says he was born at Oporto. Two years ago came to New York and got a protection from the Portuguese Consul.

Richard Pierce—Says he was born at Marblehead, and admitted by Capt. Hardy to be an American.

Edward Thomas—Says he was born at South Wales; was naturalized in Charleston 10 years ago; married Sarah Sonderdike in New York about 2 years ago; knows John Huffin, Charleston, and Samuel Newton and Elias Kane, New York. Kane and Pierce sent letters by Mr. Tazewell.

Lawrence Anderson—A Sweed; never naturalized.

William Stevens—An Englishman; not naturalized.

*On Board the Columbine.*

1. Travers Nichells—Says he was born in Philadelphia in October, 1778; remained there till he was about 9 years old, then removed with his father's family to Thornburg Township, Delaware County, in the State of Pennsylvania, where his father is now alive, a farmer. He is a farmer. Is known by Robert Reede's family. David Messer and Thomas Messer, Jacob Richards, of Congress, and Jesse Darlington, a member of the State Legislature, is known to him. Shipped in New York in January on board the Brig Mary, Capt. Marshall, for Jamaica and back. After signing, was told it was a British vessel engaged in the St. Domingo trade. Was captured by the Cleopatra on the 9th day after sailing, sent to Bermuda, and there condemned; then put on board the Leopard and

1807.  
August 15,  
Norfolk

sent to Halifax and transferred from the Leopard to the Columbine in May or June last. Thomas Hall, in New York, shipped him and carried him before a Notary. He has a protection. Mr. Erwin, of New York, was the owner of the Brig, and was on board when captured. He knows John Kelly, Store Keeper, Bedloe Street, New York, and Wm. Wright, boarding House Keeper, Petition Street, New York. Has a protection, No. 7408, by David Gilston, Collector, New York, dated 30th December, 1806. I believe this man to be an American.

2. Joseph Halfield Ball—Says he was born in Worstertown, Massachusetts; is 22 years old in September. His father, Benjamin Ball, is a farmer now living at Windsor, in Massachusetts. When young, removed to Springfield, and there brought up as a Farmer. Knows William Elly, of Congress; Phinehas Clapen, a Delegate, and George Bliss, a Representative. Has a brother, Benjamin, a farmer, and a sister married to James Russell at the armory at Springfield. Left Springfield in October last for the first time to go to sea. Went to Hartford, and from thence to New York in a Ship called the Vermont, owned by Justin Lyman and commanded by Simon Lyman, of New York, who knows him. Shipped on board the Brig Mary with Nichells, and has been with him since. Has a protection procured by Justin Lyman, Connecticut, by Jas. Thomas, Middletown, No. 718, Nov. 6th, 1806. I believe him an American.

3. William Brown—Says he was born in Watertown, four miles from Boston; is 40 years old; brought up to the sea. Sailed from Boston 'til about two years ago, when he was impressed in the West Indies by the frigate Africane from the Bacchus schooner, of Boston, owned by Sullivan Daw. Married Olive Warner, a servant girl of Mr. Codman, rope-maker. His wife has been dead for many years. Has two daughters and a son; oldest son 18 years old. Knows Daniel Sergeant, No. 17 Long Wharf, merchant; Thomas Perkins, merchant; Capt. Hopkins, now a merchant; Mr. Lewis, a merchant. William Collins, trunk-maker, is particularly known to him, and Daniel Baker, soap boiler, South End, and Enoch May, Constable, Pleasant street. Mr. Lyman, American Consul at London, on the 19th of May, 1806, procured his discharge from the Magnanimo, and he had a Certificate of discharge. Returned to New York. Sailed in the Mary with Ball. His discharge was lodged with Peter Gordon, No. 3 — Lane, New York. He was forced away by Marshall, the Capt. of the Mary, without it.

4. Thomas Holmes; aged 24; born in Watertown, State of Massachusetts; son of Thomas Holmes, farmer, who resides at Watertown. He followed farming till he went to sea, about 6 years ago. Knows Thomas Bright, farmer, and Capt. Wm. Rice, of Watertown. He has not been there these 6 years. Sailed out of New York and Boston chiefly. Knows Capt. Lowe, of Brig Northern Liberties, of New York. Taken in the

British Brig Protection, No. 368, Joseph Hiller, Salem and Beverly, 24th Feb'y, 1807.

1807.  
August 15,  
Norfolk

5. Andrew Smith; aged 22; born in Middletown, State of New Jersey; son of Hendrick Smith, a Dutchman, a Tailor. He has had no regular occupation. Brought up in Newburyport, where his father's family removed when he was 5 years old. Knows Moses Goodrich and his brother, Merchants, and John Spooner, Rigger. Taken in the British Brig Mary, Protection No. 7463, D. Gilston, 15th Dec., 1806.

Signed,

ROBERT B. TAYLOR,  
Capt. Cavalry.

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THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

The Columbine, British sloop of war, that came in some time since with dispatches for the British Minister, and which vessel was by the Law placed under the direction of the Collector of the Port, has departed without previous notice, from the anchorage assigned by the Collector, and proceeded this morning with the Triumph to sea. The demand made by the Captain of the Columbine for four months' provision and water on his first arrival, was exorbitant. The Collector did me the honor to consult me on the occasion, and I had no hesitation in saying that it ought not to be granted. That a full allowance for the nearest port was all that in my opinion they had a right to demand, but as the case was new, I would submit it to the Government. The Collector has done so, and in the meantime supplied them with their daily requisitions. This conduct shows the respect they are disposed to pay to our Government.

August 17,  
Norfolk

The only ship remaining in our waters is the Cleopatra.

I am, &c.

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THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Commodore Decatur is indefatigable in his exertions to complete the Gun Boats; thirteen are nearly completed as far as it relates to the rigging, &c., and three more are expected. In a conversation with him this day, he informs me that the seamen are procured with difficulty, but from the arrangements which he has made in other Ports, he hopes to procure the able seamen that are necessary at a short day.

August 18,  
Norfolk

The British remain as yesterday.

I am, &c.

## JOHN H. SMITH TO COL. ALEXANDER STUART.

1807.  
August 20,  
King &  
Queen Co.

I enclose you the copy of your proposals for raising a Brigade of Virginia Volunteers, which was forwarded to me by the last Richmond mail. In this copy I found a Captain's commission in a company of Light Infantry in the Second Regiment Virginia Volunteers, tendered me *agreeably to your instructions*. I have testified (by an endorsement on the proposals) my ready and cheerful acceptance of the commission, and most willingly subscribe to every condition of this acceptance.

Under an impression that it is my duty to name to you and through you to the Executive of the State, fit persons to fill the offices of Lieutenant and Ensign in the Infantry company to be recruited by me, I now take the liberty of mentioning to you Mr. Thomas Hoskins and Mr. James Buckner, both residents of King & Queen county—the first as Lieutenant, the last as Ensign. My knowledge of the character of each of those gentlemen, fully authorizes me to mention them to you in terms of high respect and commendation. The first has held a Lieutenant's commission for some years in a militia company, the other a Captain's commission.

I am, &c.

August 21,  
Monticello

Tho. Jefferson salutes the Governor with esteem and respect, and returns him the papers received in his letter of the 18th, he thinks there can be no doubt but that the *sealed* letter from the British Consul at New York to the commander of the Bellona should be returned.

## FRANCIS GRAY TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 21,  
Lynchburg

Soliciting an appointment as a Cavalry officer.

## THOS. MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 22,  
Norfolk

Your Excellency's letter of the 19th, with the enclosures, reached me this day. In the opinion I gave to the Collector respecting the supplies of the Columbine, I made the President's instructions my guide. The Columbine was direct from Halifax, and immediately on Her arrival for the Captain to make a demand of four months' provision and water, I could not but suspect that some abuse of the privilege held out to vessels of this description by the President's proclamation was intended. The vessel has, however, departed from the anchorage assigned Her by the Collector and joined the Squadron in our waters.

The Collector has handed to me a variety of documents from the Secretary of State, respecting a number of citizens detained on board the British Squadron on the American station. I shall use my best exertions for their liberation, and communicate the results to your Excellency.

1807.  
August 22,  
Norfolk

The wagon forwarded to this place for public use is unfit for service. At twelve o'clock this day the *Triumph* was the only ship within the Cape: the others are cruising off.

I am, &c.

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JAMES MCFARLANE TO THE GOVERNOR.

It is with pleasure I lay before your Excellency the proceedings of the 72 Regiment, conveyed on Wednesday last, for the purpose of detailing one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Ensign, and eighty-five men, her quota of the 11,563 to be furnished by the State.

August 23,  
Russell Co.

The meeting was more numerous than upon any former occasion, and the utmost harmony prevailed. The spirit of '76 appeared to have taken possession of every heart—each officer and soldier “ardent and emulous for their country’s service.” After addressing the Regiment, I requested the officers who felt an anxiety to take the field in defence of their independence to come forward. Every officer of the Regiment tendered their services. When the necessary officers were selected, the young men turned out voluntarily the number required.

I trust, sir, the Americans will convince the world they are not a divided people, when called on to support their Glorious Independence. Altho’ difference of opinion may exist as to the mode of administration, yet convinced I am, when requested to rally under the banners of liberty, they will all join in one patriotic band to *avenge* the injuries done their country.

Be assured, sir, I feel the greatest anxiety to serve my country (if occasion required) in a military capacity, especially in the Rifle department; but, from the present arrangements, I do not expect the honor of serving on the first tour of duty; perhaps if times grow worse, my services will be accepted.

I am, &c.

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II. LEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Having just returned from a circuit to some of the lower counties, I have the pleasure to repeat to your Excellency my growing expectation that the volunteer levy will succeed in my division. The enclosed letter

August 24,  
Richmond

1807.  
August 24,  
Richmond

furnishes ground of hope which I trust will be realized. It brings to view a subject which I beg leave to submit to your consideration, and upon which I ask your decision. My aids have been, and will be employed to the end, in performance of public duty, at their own expense. I trust Government will reimburse them, and I cannot doubt but that the General Government will make good to the State such reimbursement.

Your Excellency's late orders I found at my lodgings; they will command from me the most prompt attention. Engaged, as I have been, in preparing for war, it was natural for me to meditate on subjects connected with that event, so far as respected my particular State.

Two points are ever in my mind: 1st. How can we best protect the crippled commerce we may enjoy and guard our seaports? 2nd. What shall we do as to our slaves?

I believe our chief seaport, Norfolk, and our only river (York), capable and convenient, may be secured from naval enterprise. If this is done, great good will be done to our country, and high honor will accrue to Government in case of war. Should the blessings of peace be preserved, still public approbation must be bestowed on a preparation so essential, and the expense of the necessary fortifications will be cheerfully submitted to. I have no doubt but that the faithful repair of the Forts Nelson and Norfolk, with additional forts on Craney Island and the point above, and between Norfolk and Portsmouth, with an adequate co-operation of Gun Boats, will place this valuable commercial city safe from the British fleet, which is the only weapon in the hands of our enemy we need apprehend.

Of our many rivers, York river is the only one which can with facility be defended, which is certainly fortunate for the State, as its harbor is capacious and safe, as the same wind which brings a vessel into our capes will take her up to their harbor at York Town. As this river is the intermediate navigation between the rivers Rappahannock and James, to both whose waters merchandise may be conveyed by a short land carriage from York river, and consequently by the aid of these rivers may be wafted to our interior.

Few counties have been so advantageously placed by Providence, and surely it is the duty of Government to extend this bountiful gift, by rendering the only river which can be generally useful, completely so at a period when all our other rivers are, as it were, occluded from use.

The heights of York and the point of Gloucester give excellent positions for co-operating forts at a short distance from the enemy sailing up that river. Above and below the point of Gloucester are two creeks adapted for Gun-boats, with shoals near the upper creek proper for the same sort of vessels, in the midst of which shoals is a small Island, where I hope a fort might be erected, which would not only protect the gun-boats, but effectually annoy a squadron passing the forts below.



I am not an Engineer; I wish I was, as then I could ascertain all the advantages of this position, and would with pleasure undertake so to do. 1807.  
August 24,  
Richmond

My opinions are to be regarded only by way of producing the decision of officers of skill and experience in that particular branch of war.

You have it in your power readily to complete these defences. The militia force demanded by your Excellency, will soon be ready to take the field. Call them out; save the expences of tents, if you please, by slight huts easily erected by the Troops; post them at Norfolk, Portsmouth, York Town, and Gloucester point. Let them be trained for battle, and while training, let them be taught the art of erecting fortifications as a knowledge essential to the officer, as often resorted to in field operations when little expected. Your Troops would thus be completely fitted for your object, and at the same time your country bettered where her best interest requires melioration.

With respect to the second point, it is a delicate and difficult subject; nevertheless it must be met, or it will be sure to meet you. Without giving my sentiments at large on this point, I will now only suggest the propriety of enlisting every free male negro capable of bearing arms. They would answer excellently as pioneers and camp colour men, and, indeed, if the number surpassed these demands, it would be judicious to make them distinct military corps, to march them to the eastern frontier, and there use them as garrisons or as part of the operating force. Should Canada be invaded, you derive one signal advantage—you take them from the slaves, whom in case of insurrection they would join. You deprive the slaves of intelligence, of advisers, and of leaders.

You kill the black as well as the white in battle, and thus hold up in a degree the present proportion between the two classes. I might extend my enquiry greatly, but I have gone far enough, as I wish merely to bring the subject to your Excellency's consideration.

I am, &c.

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#### JOHN CLARKE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Capt. Rich'd B. Goode recommends Samuel Taylor as a candidate for the office of Lieutenant of his company, in the Virginia Legion of Volunteers, and James Clarke as Ensign. August 24,  
Richmond

I am, &c.

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*His Excellency the Governor and the Hon'ble Council of State :*

Gentlemen—We, the undersigned, young men and residents of Richmond, inspired by that military ardor which so eminently charac-

1807.  
August 24,  
Richmond

terizes the Virginian youth in perilous times, having formed ourselves into a company of "Junior Volunteers," unite in addressing you requesting that you will be pleased to furnish us with such arms and accoutrements as may be lying useless in the Capitol, pledging ourselves to return them when called upon, in complete order.

The Executive may, perhaps, entertain some doubts relative to the Responsibility in which we are placed in possession of these arms; we therefore suggest the propriety of appointing some Agent to the superintendence thereof. We are fully convinced that a desire existing in the minds of the Executive Council to countenance and support a school of such utility, will supercede all doubts they may entertain of the precarious tenure by which it may be supposed we may hold the aforesaid arms, &c.

If they are disposed to grant our requests, the light French muskets, which, we are told, are lying out of use in the Capitol, with small cartridge boxes, to be furnished when solicited by us, according to the increase of our company, we deem sufficient.

We have the honor to be, Very Respectfully,

William Lambert, Jun'r, James E. Heath, Wm. H. Hening, William R. Daniel, George Pickett, Jun'r, D. N. Norton, Charles Hay, Thomas Ambler, Carter Braxton, Tho. Hughes, P. A. Petcolas, Mann Satterwhite, Richard Booker, Valentine Southall, Gabriel Penn, Nathaniel Dunlop, Philip Duvall, Anthony Robinson, Abraham Cawley—19.

N. B.—Several others have become members, but have not signed the address.

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THOMAS MATHEWS TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 26,  
Norfolk

Major Newton not having had it in his power to relieve Taylor's Cavalry, stationed at the pleasure house, I hold it my duty to give your Excellency every information until he shall take upon him the complete command of the detachment in service. I do myself the honor to enclose you a copy of my letter of instructions to Major Newton and a copy of my order issued in pursuance of your Excellency's orders of the 21st Instant. The references alluded to in my letter to Major Newton you are already possessed of.

The British Squadron has been reinforced since my letter of yesterday, with one Brig, supposed to be an 18-Gun Sloop of war. Their strength at 2 P. M. this day was the Triumph, Cleopatra, and three heavy Brigs. their position stretching from Cape Henry to the North Channel on the borders of Cape Charles.

I am, &c.

HEAD QUARTERS, Norfolk, *25th August, 1807.*1807.  
August 26,  
Norfolk

Major THOMAS NEWTON, of the 54th Regiment:

Sir—I have it in command from his Excellency the Governor to discharge the Troop of Cavalry under the command of Capt. Robert B. Taylor, and to retain in service the company of Infantry under the command of Capt. John Reade, of the Twentieth Regiment, and the company of Artillery commanded by Capt. Peter Nestelle, and quartered at Fort Norfolk, and to place those two companies under your command.

The former you will post, as your judgment shall direct, between this place and Cape Henry for the purpose of intercepting all intercourse with the British vessels, their officers and crews remaining in our waters contrary to the Proclamation of the President of the United States, and of preventing them from taking or receiving supplies of any kind, and for this purpose, should force be necessary, you are to understand that force is to be employed without reserve or hesitation. The latter are intended to aid in the defence of Norfolk, and are to have the use of the Guns at Fort Norfolk.

You are to receive, authorize, and regulate intercourse by flag with the British Squadron, according to the principles laid down by the President of the United States in the enclosed extract, but it will be understood that Commodore Decatur or the officer commanding in his absence, possesses this power in equal degree.

You will make such arrangements with your out posts as will enable you to receive such communications from them relative to the number, position, and conduct of the British Squadron within our waters, together with any other information that you may deem important, and which you are daily to communicate to his Excellency the Governor.

For your government I enclose you a copy of a provisional arrangement entered into by me with the British commander, respecting the intercourse by flag. You will immediately direct a guard for the relief of Lieutenant Selden of Taylor's troop, stationed at Pleasure House. The necessity of an immediate relief for the detachment, must be too obvious to need any remark from me.

I am, &amp;c.,

THOS. MATHEWS.

HEAD QUARTERS, Norfolk, *25th Aug't, 1807.*

GEN'L ORDERS:

The General has received instructions from his Excellency the Governor, to discharge from service the troops of Cavalry under the command of Captain Robert B. Taylor; and to retain Capt. John Read's company of Infantry of the 20th Reg't, and Capt. Peter Nestell's company of Artillery, and to place those two companies under the command

1807.  
August 26,  
Norfolk

of Major Thomas Newton of the 54th Regiment. Capt. Read and Capt. Nestell will therefore conform to this arrangement and obey the orders of Major Newton.

The General feels happy in announcing to Capt. Taylor, his officers and men, the high sense entertained by his Excellency the Governor, of their activity and patriotic zeal and ardor in the service of their country. The General cannot permit the corps to retire without expressing his entire approbation of their conduct during the time they have been in service. The prompt manner with which they have executed every order, and the cheerfulness with which they have submitted to the fatigue and hardships attendant on a military life, entitle them to rank with the best disciplined troops, and is a sure presage that if they should again be called into actual service, they will do honor to themselves and credit to their country.

The commandants of the detachment of the 7th and 54th Regiments lately on service, together with the Cavalry and Artillery attached to the 54th, will have their pay-rolls immediately made out and delivered to the General. The Quarter master and Forage master will likewise have their accounts made up and furnished to the General without delay. It is expected that those departments will be particular in obtaining all accounts against the troops lately in service, that no cause of complaint may arise on the part of the citizens.

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THOS. NEWTON, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

August 31,  
Norfolk

On the 26th of this month, General Thos. Mathews' order to take command of the Detachment of Militia continued in public service, was handed to me, accompanied with instructions for the government of my conduct. My time has been so much occupied in making the necessary arrangements, that I have not had leisure before this to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 24th instant.

I shall render unremitting attention to the public service. Your orders shall be executed with alacrity, promptitude and decision. Beyond the limits of my instructions, I shall not pass.

On the 29th of this month I sent Capt. John Read, accompanied by Mr. Tully Robinson, an intelligent young man, with a flag to Commodore Sir Thomas Hardy, bearing documents from the Secretary of State, to obtain the liberation of some American seamen impressed and detained on board of the Squadron under his command. I likewise directed Capt. Read to take with him Wm. Mathias, a citizen of Princess Anne county, for the purpose of recovering his slave, stated to be on board the Triumph. I have charged Capt. Read and Mr. Robinson to have no further intercourse with them than that which relates to the business of their



1807.  
August 31,  
Norfolk

expence will not amount to above sixty dollars. He also asks permission to be allowed to practice his men in firing at a target. A knowledge in pointing and firing artillery cannot be acquired without practice. This knowledge is all important in making or resisting an attack. Your Excellency will view on the one hand the expence to be incurred for powder and ball, and on the other the advantage accruing to the public in having expert and skillful artillerists. You will perceive, Sir, that I am not disposed wontenly to squander the public treasure, by taking the precaution of consulting you on the expenditures necessary to be made. While I shall endeavor to avoid the censure of a criminal parsimony, I shall ever be studious of keeping within the limits prescribed by a just and enlightened economy. The Flag I sent to the British Squadron returned this morning. The liberation of one American seaman by the name of Pearce is procured, and assurances to set more at liberty if found on board of the Squadron have been made. Capt. Read and Mr. Robinson were received and treated with politeness.

Wm. Mathias, negro man, has been restored to him. I solicit your Excellency to grant me permission to select such characters as I shall deem fit to charge with dispatches to the Squadron whenever my duty requires me to send them. The inconvenience, if not danger, arising from a restraint in this particular, must be apparent on reflection. Sir Robert Laurie, Bart, in the *Laville de Milan*, has arrived, and has taken command of the Squadron. Sir Thomas Hardy is still on this station. The *Cleopatra* is cruising (I am informed) off our Capes.

As soon as Capt. Read and Mr. Robinson furnish me with a report of their mission, I will transmit you a copy.

I cannot keep up a daily, or any communication whatever with the Seashore without horses—two or three will be requisite for that purpose. The following Letters came under cover to me from Sir Robert Laurie, and unsealed: One to John Hamilton, British Consul, Norfolk, on his Majesty's service, Robt. Laurie; one Ditto to Messrs. Robert Maitland & Co.; one Ditto to Wm. Gray, Esq., at Col. Hamilton's, Norfolk; one W. Rowland, Esq'r, Norfolk; one to Miss Louisa Maxwell, Norfolk, accompanied with a sealed bundle containing, as is supposed, music. My orders prohibit my delivery of them, or any of them, unless I first peruse them and judge their contents to be such as to authorize a delivery. If the rule is not complied with, I shall return them by the first conveyance unopened. \* \*

I am, &c.

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JOHN CLARK TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 1      The erection of the Boring Mill for cannon will be commenced as soon as the blowing and removing of stone from the foundation shall be com-

pleted, and as that work is now in forwardness, I propose shortly, to take the trip to George Town so long talked of, with a view of introducing into the construction of our founding and boring works, the late improvement in the art of making ordnance, which have been adopted in the works of Mr. Foxall of that place.

1807.  
Sept. 1

I wish to be informed by the Executive whether or not I shall be authorized to procure of Mr. Foxall, such iron apparatus for our Foundry and Boring works as may be required for it.

A balance remains due me for building the machinery of the Manufactory of Arms. Please direct the Auditor to issue a warrant for that balance excepting one hundred dollars which shall remain unpaid until the machinery of the boring works (which was built several years ago) shall be put in place.

I am, &c.

THOMAS NEWTON, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have the honor of transmitting to you, copies of two letters addressed to me by Sir Robert Laurie, and a copy of the Report made to me by Capt. Read and Mr. Robinson on their return from the British Squadron. The Chesapeake sailed the 21st, with three gunboats, up the Bay. According to my construction of the President's instructions, communicated through you, for the Government of the Commanding Officer at this place, I think liberty is granted to the officer to open letters under seal, with the consent of the person to whom they may be addressed, and to deliver the same if, in his judgment, their contents are noways improper, but relating only to private business or common affairs. Open letters may be sent and received according to the instructions. I solicit your opinion on this point. I wish a rule to be laid down to govern me in all cases of this description.

Sept. 4,  
Norfolk

The letter to Messrs. Maitland & Co. is one of the number which came under cover to me from Sir Robert Laurie, and mentioned in my first letter to you. Maitland informed me that it was from a correspondent in Halifax, Nova Scotia. I have not heard from the Cape for two days. Capt. Read informed me in his last letter, that a Corporal and two men were under arrest for sleeping on their post while on guard. I solicit your Excellency to order a Court Martial. I have no power to order one when the offence is capital. A discretionary power is certainly given to the Court to inflict a punishment less severe than death, but it is not for me to anticipate what would or ought to be the sentence of the Court.

I am, &c.

1807.  
Sept. 4,  
Norfolk

H. M. SHIP MILAN,  
Lynhaven Bay, *Aug. 30th, 1807.*

SIR:

Since writing to you this morning, I find William Mears, whose name is in the list of impressed American seamen, was discharged his Majesty's service about the 29th ultimo at Halifax, on producing the necessary proofs.

Enclosed a letter from a man on board this Ship, taken out of an English Brig at Sea, without any certificate, which I request you will forward as addressed. To prevent giving you any further trouble, I have only to observe that as soon as he produces the necessary certificates of native citizenship of the United States of America, satisfactory either to his Britannic Majesty's Minister or to one of the British Consuls, who must be the best judges of the faith to be placed on the attestation of such documents, he shall be discharged.

Signed,

ROBERT LAURIE,

Capt. H. M. S. Milan, and Senior in Lynhaven Bay.

To Major Thomas Newton, Commanding Officer, Borough of Norfolk.

HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP MILAN,  
Lynhaven Bay, *Aug. 30th, 1807.*

SIR:

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter addressed to Sir Thomas Hardy, B't, and every measure shall be adopted upon the arrival of others of His Majesty's ships here to meet your wishes. Richard Pearce, on board the Triumph, appears to be the only one entitled to his discharge, which has been ordered, altho' from his appearance I have much my doubts whether he is a native American of the United States. Edward Thomas, being born in Wáles, Great Britain. cannot by any power vested in me be discharged. Neither can John Leach, now on board the Milan (who, I believe, is as described), having received his Majesty's bounty of five Guineas as a volunteer able seaman. But I shall state the application and circumstances to the Honorable Vice Admiral Berkeley, Commander-in-Chief, and shall make his intentions known, if sanctioned by him, to you when received. I have to request you will forward the enclosed dispatches to the British Consul, and have the goodness to let the two private letters be sent also.

Signed,

ROBERT LAURIE,

Senior Officer of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in Lynhaven Bay.

To Major Newton, Commanding Officer, Borough of Norfolk.

MONDAY MORNING, *31st Aug't, 1807.*

SIR:

The mission which you did us the honor to confide to our attention, we proceeded to discharge with promptness and strict adherence to those instructions which you designed for our direction and control. Its results we now beg leave to communicate.



We reached the *Triumph* at 7 o'clock yesterday morning, and after being received on board, hastened to hand to Sir Thomas Hardy the letter you had addressed to him. He observed that Sir Ro't Laure of the *Ville de Milan*, which ship then lay about a mile to the westward of the *Triumph* was the senior officer; of course that he did not feel himself authorized to examine the communications, but would immediately inform him of our visit.

1807.  
Sept. 4,  
Norfolk

Accordingly in a short time Capt. Laurie arrived, who and Capt. Hardy perused the letter addressed to the latter. We presented them also with the documents which ascertain and establish the citizenship of several impressed American seamen on board the British Squadron, together with a list of many more certificates of whose citizenship had not yet been procured. Having read the above, they both declared a perfect willingness to discharge American seamen of whose citizenship they were assured; with this exception however, that if any seamen had taken the King's bounty, they did not conceive themselves authorized to decline such, unless the Admiral should transmit special instructions to that effect. This remark was made by Capt. Laurie who appealed to Capt. Hardy for its correctness, when the latter acquiesced in it.

The former then observed that of the list of impressed American seamen we had handed to him, he recollected the names of two only—viz., Leach and Pearce. The first had taken the bounty; he therefore would write to the Admiral upon the subject and communicate his instructions to our commanding officer. The other he would permit to return with us. And with respect to the rest, whose names we had communicated to him, he would assure us that he would obtain the earliest information of them from the different ships of the Squadron, of which you should be informed. We mentioned to Capt. Hardy that we had understood a negro man was on board the *Triumph* belonging to Mr. Mathias of Princess Anne county, and that we were directed to afford to his master every facility in procuring him. Capt. Hardy assured us that he should have been before given up with those which had been already delivered, had he not at that time concealed himself in the ship beyond discovery.

Thus, Sir, we have been able to procure the retirement of one only of our impressed countrymen and Mr. Mathias' slave.

It may perhaps be expected that we make some mention of the deportment of Captains Laurie and Hardy towards us; it certainly was polite and conciliatory. But we do not mention this as a mite in extenuation of *Murder*.

With esteem and high respect, we remain yours,

JOHN READ, Capt.,  
TULLY ROBINSON.

The above is a copy of the report made by the above gentlemen to me of the result of their mission.

THO. NEWTON, JR., May'r.

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W. J. LEWIS TO THE GOVERNOR.

1807.        Soliciting commissions for officers of a Regiment of Volunteer Infantry being raised by him.  
 Sept. 5,  
 Bent Creek

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At a Board of Officers held at Lunenburg Court House on the 5th of September, 1807, for the purpose of furnishing a requisition made by General Pegram from the 73rd Regiment of Virginia Militia—

Whereupon John Taylor tendered a list of Fifty-four privates as a part of said requisition.

We recommend the said John Taylor as a fit and proper person to fill the appointment of Captain in said company of volunteers, William Buford, Ju'r, as Lieutenant, and Thomas Hamlin as Ensign, they having been appointed to fill said offices by the said Company of Volunteers.

Given under our hands the date above.

Peter Lamkin, Lt.-Col.; W. T. Street, Major; Jas. Hinton, Major; Peter Epes, Capt.; Levi Clay, Capt.; Fras. Robertson, Capt.; Drury A. Bacon, Capt.; Robert Chappell, Capt.; Wm. Ragsdale, Capt.; John Stokes. Capt.; Upton Edmundson, Capt.

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ALEXANDER SMYTHE TO SAMUEL COLEMAN.

Sept. 6,        Complaining that the Colonel chosen to command the detail of militia  
 Wythe        to be furnished from Gen. Preston's Division, was selected from the 17th  
              Brigade on account of its larger number of men rather than by seniority.

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FOUSHEE G. TEBBS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 11,        Stating objections to the mode of organizing the Virginia Legion and  
 Belleville        issuing commissions to its officers.

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THOMAS PRESTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 14,        Asking that a piece of cannon at Staunton be granted for the use of  
 Lexington        the Artillery Company of which he is Captain.

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THOMAS NEWTON, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 16,        The following is a copy of a letter just received from Lieut. George  
 Norfolk        Vashon; it bears the same date of this.

It shews what reliance is to be placed in the assurances and professions of British marine officers:

1807.  
Sept. 16,  
Norfolk

"SIR:

Last night an express was sent from the Seines on the beach to report the landing of some men from one of the British ships. A Guard immediately reconnoitered the beach from Lyham Inlet to the Light House. Then I was informed that a barge with about ten men, officers included, from one of the British ships, came to the shore for sand. Five of their men deserted; were fired at by their officers, but effected their escape. The barge immediately returned to the ship.

A pilot (name unknown) yesterday landed from his boat, enquired of the seine-haulers where fruit of any kind could be purchased, returned to his pilot boat, went alongside a tender belonging to one of the British ships, thence to the ships. The three ships reported yesterday, continue to remain at their usual anchorage."

I shall endeavor to obtain the names of those on board the Pilot boat and have them prosecuted if taken.

I shall repeat the orders given by your Excellency to capture, if possible, if not to destroy, those who dare land in open contempt and defiance of the President's Proclamation.

I am, &c.

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JNO. P. SHIELDS TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have sent up on freight agreed on with Capt. Wm. Rowe, 8 cannon, 2 of which is 24-Pounders, one 18 Do., 2 Nines, 1 six, and 2 fours. The freight agreed on is \$25, which sum I refer him to you for payment. They are all that is lying at Hoods. I shall proceed up Chickahominy from this place, and so on to Williamsburg, where I shall be about Monday next, if I have tollerable chance. Should you wish to write, I there can get your letter.

Sept. 17,  
Hoods

The Guns are all spiked, but the large Guns are as good now as when they left the foundry. The small guns have their Trunnions broken off. I have informed the Captain that I expected you would get Capt. Clarke to attend to the getting them out of the vessel, as the large Guns are of a great weight. I have found a great difficulty in handling of them.

I am, &c.

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C. S. CHILTON TO THE GOVERNOR.

Informing him that the Lynchburg Independent Infantry had offered their services, under the Act of February, 1807, for 12 months.

Sept. 19,  
Lynchburg

## ORDERS GIVEN TO THE GOVERNOR.

1847  
Sept. 22 Proposing to raise a Regiment of Light Infantry to be commissioned in the manner of "The Virginia Legion," to be commanded by himself, and with other conditions.

## ORDERS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept. 22  
Washington- Proposing the raising of a Light Infantry company of Washington- ury County, commanded by himself.

## THIRD VISIT OF MEXICO TO THE GOVERNOR.

Sept.  
Mexico. On my return to Mexico this morning I was at once by Capt. Gordon, of the "Hussars," in the 18th regiment, late in the evening discharged from Sir Robert Laurie, Bart., commanding officer of his Britannic Majesty's squadron in this station. Sir Robert has honored me with an official Note. I regret that I will not be a little pressed in determining whether and when to lay before the prominent features.

It may not only excite the mind which Sir Robert is to sustain as an able Government, and as a perspicacious and discerning writer. If no more are excited with an ordinary portion of sensibility and discernment, the record of an official act will suffice even the cheeks of a youth with a burning blush. I speak a language which, but just and a comprehensive to the just divine order of creation. The perspective of the political order of power, the evidence becomes may become issues with extreme passages of death. It may become spontaneous with stars or with earth, but it can give neither the attitude of dignity, nor can it render the permanent state of civilization.

As the project to which Mexico is contributed by the political progress at St. James's, Sir Robert has a claim to momentary attention: having received that the mind spurs him from observation.

Permit me, Sir, to state a few facts. Their application I leave to your judgment. On the 27th of August last I dispatched Capt. Read and Tully Robinson, Esq., to the British Squadron, with documents from the *Office of State*, to obtain the liberation of American Seamen. Copies of their report and of two letters from Sir Robert Laurie I transmitted to you at the same time, informing you that letters to Col. Hamilton and others came under cover to me, and that all of them were under seal.

I shall not repeat the orders I received from your Excellency. Since the letters have been in my possession, I have had no business on the part of the United States to authorize my intercourse with the British

Squadron, until, the other day, documents from the Secretary of State were put into my hands to obtain the freedom of four impressed seamen. Every preparation was made to obey the injunction of Government when Sir Robert's letter arrested my proceeding.

1807.  
Oct. 1,  
Norfolk

Circumstances will not any longer permit me to hold intercourse with that officer, without dishonoring my Government and violating your orders.

The President's Proclamation was officially communicated to Commodore Douglass when the Squadron was stationed in Hampton Roads, a period long prior to the assumption of the command by Sir Robert Laurie.

He was fully apprised that communication directly with the shore by persons belonging to the Squadron, or indirectly by letters, except under certain restrictions, was prohibited.

He, however, in defiance of the interdiction, enclosed to me letters for Col. Hamilton and others. In the first instance, the same letters were presented to Capt. Read, with a request to deliver them, informing Sir Robert that his orders prevented his receiving any letter that was not addressed to me, and that they could not be delivered. Sir Robert then retired, enclosed them, and addressed the dispatch to me, by which artifice Capt. Read was deceived. As soon as possible, I informed Col. Hamilton personally that I had such letters, and assigned my reason for not delivering them. The course for me to pursue was no ways intricate. I determined, without hesitation, not to run the Government to the expence of twenty dollars, or perhaps more, to return the letters. I considered it my duty to hold them in possession until I should receive orders from Government to send a Flag on public business, of which opportunity, when it shall offer, I should avail myself politely to return them.

I do not regret that intercourse with the British Squadron has terminated. On our part, it was kept open for the relief of suffering humanity; on theirs, it was deceptive—a mere parade of professions. It is generally believed that the commanders of Ships of war on the American coast are in the constant practice of transferring our impressed Seamen to ships that are ordered to distant stations. When our Government makes application for certain Seamen, exhibiting proof that they are entitled to their discharges, the commanders shew a willingness to comply, a search is made for the Seamen, and a report soon follows that no such persons are to be found in such Ships. They cautiously avoid to give any hint that the seamen have been removed. They also pretend to respect our rights, yet every passing moment is witness to violations and insults. If a solitary act of justice is rendered, it is with a view to lull us into fatal security, and to give them a safe and glorious opportunity of striking a vital blow. The sword is less to be dreaded than

1807.  
Oct. 1,  
Norfolk

insidious friendship. Your Excellency is convinced that I have no faith in British honor. Time will discover that I have not formed erroneous judgment. It is immaterial who commands, every act is in obedience to the same principle: "they feel power and forget right."

I pray your Excellency to excuse my warmth of expressions, alive to the wrong and injuries unjustly and deliberately perpetrated and accumulated on my country. I feel a glow of indignation that I could not altogether suppress.

Sir Robert's letter was the application of a match to the train. I exerted myself to moderate and temper my feelings. In a great measure, I succeeded. Your Excellency should have been in possession of this letter, and likewise a copy of Sir Robert's, had not my avocations prevented an earlier communication. The 15th of this month I shall be obliged to leave this for Washington, to be in time to take my seat in Congress. I apprise your Excellency of this that a substitute by that time may be procured, should the detachment of militia be continued in service.

I am, &c.

HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP MILAN,  
Off Cape Henry, Sept. 25th, 1807.

SIR:

I herewith return the documents intended to prove the citizenship of a number of American Seamen said to be detained on board his Britannic Majesty's ships of war here, received from you, accompanying a letter dated 27th August, addressed to Sir Thomas Hardy, and which, as senior officer of this Squadron, it became my duty to attend to, and I acknowledge the receipt of by my two letters of the 30th ultimo, inclosing dispatches to John Hambleton, Esq'r, British Consul at Norfolk, which, from the regular manner through you in which they were transmitted, can have no doubt but that they were delivered immediately; but as the contents were of as much consequence to the mercantile part of your nation as to us, being the official statement of the capture of the Bolardo Privateer, commanded by the supposed Pirates Ross and Tardy, both having *American* certificates of Citizenship, who followed a British merchant Brig from Hampton and captured her in sight of Cape Henry, and whose piratical conduct in plundering different American vessels I have read in the papers published in the United States, I must say that I took it for granted that our Consul would have been permitted to have acknowledged the receipt of them. Richard Pearce, the only man on board the Triumph whose name appeared in the lists sent down, was immediately discharged, as you must have been informed by Capt. Read. I now send enclosed the report made to me from the Captains of the British men of war that have arrived here since that period, by which you will, I trust, be convinced of my inclination to forward the wishes

of your Government, and there are no persons answering the description of, or bearing any of the names on the lists serving in this ship under my command. As I made a mistake respecting Leach, the man of that name on board the Milan is Richard, and is aged 22 years; says he was born in New York, has no certificate, and is a volunteer, having received the bounty.

1807.  
Oct. 1,  
Norfolk

One Douglass McDougal was discharged from the Triumph on the 8th of August, altho' not entitled to such indulgence (being a native Britain), but on the statement of his having a wife and family in America. Surely after every disposition on our part being evinced to conciliate, we have some claim for equity and respect which it grieves me to find is very little attended to. On the evening of the 14th Inst. the two dispatch Schooners, in a violent squall of wind, having each of them lost an anchor, were obliged to push for shelter, and one of them, the Hope, was driven on shore near to Hampton creek unable to assist themselves, having neither of them a boat to carry out an anchor (one boat being demolished by the violence of the mob at Norfolk; the other seized by a party of military and carried up there and not returned from the folly of two young Midshipmen going on shore in Lynham Bay for a few hours' recreation from the confinement in so small a vessel, and who most likely had never seen or understood the President's Proclamation). She could not at that time of tide be got off. A Launch from the United States Frigate Chesapeake was sent down to the Schooners, and even in so small a number as in our boat's crew, were avowedly two deserters, both native born British subjects—George Curtis, from the Triumph, and John Beck, from the Bellona, and some other Englishmen, who related that there were several more on board the Chesapeake (one of them, who is now 2nd Captain of her foretop, bore so indifferent a character on board the ship he was in, that he would have been turned on shore). Altho' I cannot help feeling hurt at such illiberal steps being taken by a Country that we are in amity with, still it is a flattering circumstance to find that a State of so extensive a *maritime* Trade as I should suppose America to be (from the number of Seamen claimed and granted certificates to, could have no difficulty in procuring volunteers amongst their own citizens for at least 50 sail of the line), has recourse to and entice from their allegiance, the British Seamen to enable that State to send to sea as men of war a very few frigates and other small vessels.

When that nation so much appreciates the value of some of the most indifferent characters, we cannot but exult.

As it appears that you received your instructions from James Madison, Esq'r, Secretary of State, I must request you will do me the favor to lay the above circumstance before him, and to assure him of my warmest desire to render justice to every one, and anxiety to remain upon that friendly footing with this country, which I have had sincere pleasure of

1807.  
Oct. 1,  
Norfolk

maintaining for many years that I have been upon this station. But he will oblige me much should an opportunity offer by referring to Commodore Trenton, Captain Morris the Captain of the John Adams or others commanding the men of war of the United States, serving in the West Indies in the year 1800, of the support they met with in our colonies both from *civil* and military powers, to enable them to recover their deserters, and when it was considered a reciprocal duty to visit each others ships for deserters, and that I mustered the Andromaches ships company then under my command in Basseterre Roads, St. Kitts, at the request of either Captain Morris of the Adams, or the Captain of the John Adams, and delivered up a volunteer from on board, on being claimed as a deserter from one of their ships, and such a system I should have always had much pleasure in persuing, but that very different measures having been adopted by your Executive Government, it is only left for me most sincerely to regret. The two dispatch schooners (which I beg to observe, were armed to defend themselves from insult and not to act offensively), being manned by the Triumph, Sir Thomas Hardy joins with me in requesting you will offer our cordial thanks to the commanding officer of the Chesapeake and to the Captain commanding the gun vessels, for their assistance, and to the officer commanding the gun vessels for his attention to the two midshipmen who had charge of the schooners, when called on board his gun vessel and detained.

Should the British Consul be prohibited from returning an answer to the dispatches alluded to, it is not for me to permit a degrading precedent. I must therefore request you that you will spare yourself the trouble of sending down here, for whilst as senior officer, the command of this Squadron devolves on me, I shall in return feel it my duty to shut up all communication with it.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obed't humble servant,

ROBERT LAURIE.

To Major Newton, Commanding Officer, Head Quarters, Norfolk.

I certify that the above letter is accurately copied from the one addressed to me by Sir Robert Laurie, Bart.

THOS. NEWTON, Mayor.

THOMAS NEWTON (MAYOR) TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 11,  
Norfolk

Your Excellency's letters of the 7th inst. came to hand on the 9th. I am informed by Capt. Nestle that some of his men are anxious to be discharged; he says he can perform the public service with a less number. I acquainted your Excellency some time ago that I should be obliged to leave this for Washington on the 15th of this month, and so-



licited the appointment of some person to take the command from that date if it should be determined by the Government to continue the present detachment in service. It has afforded me great satisfaction and pleasure that the first military services my country has called me to perform have been under your immediate direction and inspection. Your commands have been received and executed with alacrity and promptness. The style in which they have been communicated, insured them unlimited respect.

1807.  
Oct. 11,  
Norfolk

That you may consecrate your time, your talents, and your virtues to the nation, is a wish I have in common with my fellow citizens.

I pray your Excellency ever to keep in view that this part of the country is not prepared for defence. It is the door through which the enemy must pass into our country. I fear a greater reliance is placed on our forts than experience will justify. Craney Island is a site that is admirably calculated for a fort. The most difficult part of the navigation is opposite to that Island. The channel is narrow and intricate. Should a ship be crippled in attempting the passage, she must inevitably go ashore.

I am, &c.

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THOMAS NEWTON (MAYOR) TO THE GOVERNOR.

Accounts from Captain Read state that the British ships of war have gone out.

Oct. 13,  
Norfolk

I am, &c.

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JOHN P. SHIELDS TO THE GOVERNOR.

I have had Capt. Garrison's schooner, Nancy Brooks, in the employ of collecting cannon and shot 30 days, from the 13th of September to the 12th of October, at \$4 per day. I have brought up 13 cannon and about 5 or 6,000 w<sup>t</sup> of shot, and collected 2 more large Guns, that is on board of Capt. Sails and Mr. Durrington's on freight, as Capt. Garrison's vessel was loaded and could not take them. You will please to put him in the way for his money.

Oct. 13

I will see you as soon as I get the guns and shot hauled to the Armory.

I am, &c.

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JOHN TAYLOR TO THE GOVERNOR.

I am sorry to be thus troublesome to you, but necessity compels the measure. During my absence to the Eastward, where I went on Fur-

Oct. 20,  
Mt. Airy

1807.  
Oct. 20,  
Mt. Airy

lough for the purpose of carrying my children to school, I find a great deal of opposition made to the Volunteer Levy—particularly as it related to the Corps of horse—which you did me the honor to give me the command of, and that several unjust and illiberal observations has been made to you on the occasion. If so, I must ask the favor from you of copies of such letters as has been forwarded to you relating to this corps. I am particularly informed it has been stated to you that the Troop was not complete. I enclose you a correct return, by which you can judge. Instead of 32, which constitutes a full Troop, you will see I have recruited forty-eight, but I am sorry to find by the Law that I have not a right even to muster these men for the purpose of training and discipling them; consequently it will be impossible to make good dragoons of them, as they are principally recruited from the Infantry, tho' some few of the Cavalry have joined the corps. Before I left home, I made a Return of this Corps (tho' not so full as it now is) to Col. Smith, who was authorized by the Major-General to accept the services of such Volunteers as offered under the Act of last February for the term of Twelve months. He consequently received us. At the same time, I informed him of a detachment of twenty odd recruits from Westmoreland, which had volunteered their services to me (thro' one of their body), provided their captain and Lieut. under whom they had Formed, could be commissioned, which would make the Quota of 73 complete, called for from this Brigade. This proposition he also accepted. (See the copy of his letter I forwarded with this.) Since then, I am informed, Mr. Forbes will not be commissioned (as he is not native born). I wish, therefore, to know if Mr. Cox will be commissioned as Captain of this detachment, and the Lieutenant to be chosen by the recruits, or whether they shall again express their wish who shall be their Captain and who their Lieutenant. I should be glad to receive the will of the Executive on this head as soon as possible, so that the business may be *properly arranged and completely understood*. I wish also to know if a separate offer of our services is necessary to be made to the President, since that already made to our Executive, as well as the Major-General, which has already been accepted. This may be relied on as a correct statement, and, being anxious to perform my duty as a soldier, ought to do as far as is in my power. I wish to be answered as to my inquiries as soon as your convenience will permit. I lament that my services could not be received as proffered, as from an understanding of your letters (now before me) it appears you think the law would not permit an acceptance, particularly when I observe those of the Virginia Legion were accepted, and all the difference I can perceive of the plan submitted is that theirs *is on a larger scale only*.

I also beg leave to submit to your consideration a copy of a letter from one of your body, which has in my absence been forwarded to all the Commandants of Regiments in the Northern Neck, and beg leave to

ask at same time, as he says it is done "By the direction of the Executive," what was the motive which prompted such a step. Have the goodness to inform me when and how I shall receive Arms for this Quota of Dragoons, and believe me,

Yours, &c.

1807.  
Oct. 20,  
Mt. Airy

RICHMOND, Aug. 7th, 1807.

DEAR SIR:

By the directions of the Executive, I beg leave herewith to enclose you a copy of Major Tayloe's proposal for raising a Regiment of Cavalry in the lower counties of the Northern Neck, and soliciting the command thereof. It is objectionable in those two points: 1st. That the Executive have no power by law to grant commissions before the Regiment or Corps are raised; 2nd. The mode of organization and appointment of officers is singularly exceptionable, because unknown to the Constitution and laws of our Commonwealth. I submit it to your candid perusal.

I am, dear sir, with sentiments of great regard,

JOHN HEATH.

Major Wm. Kirke, Lancaster.

We whose names are hereto subscribed, do pledge ourselves to form a Volunteer Troop of Dragoons, to be styled and known by the name of "The Northern Neck Volunteer Corps of Light Dragoons," and do associate not only for the purpose of the defence of the country in which we reside, but will hold ourselves in readiness to march *wherever the constituted authorities may direct*, to protect our native land, as well as to avenge the insult (as far as we are able) that has been *so recently offered* to our National Flag. and we do further recommend to the Executive, and beg they may be commissioned accordingly, agreeably to Law, the following Gentlemen as our officers: Major John Tayloe as our Captain and commandant; Landon Carter as our First Lieutenant; Harrison Ball as Second Lieutenant; Lewis G. A. Armistead as Cornet, and we do promise to be in readiness to march at a moment's warning on being armed by the State in manner of the other Cavalry belonging thereto.

We do voluntarily offer our services to the Major General of The Fourth Division for the term and on the conditions of the Law of February, 1807, as a part of the Quota of Troops required by the Governor from the 14th Brigade.

John Tayloe, Landon Carter, Harrison Ball, Lewis G. A. Armistead, Joseph Fauntleroy, Benjamin Baughton, Reuben Beale, Jesse B. Beale, Ednor George, Robert B. Mitchell, Carter Mitchell, Richard Lorton, Cornelius Beazley, Ephraim Beazley, Jr., Timothy Fowler, Henry King, Wm. R. Kelsick, James Risan, William Spence, Henry Crewdsan, Thornton Conneller, Thomas G. Diggs, Richard L. Shackelford, William Conneller, Abner Hawe, Newby Barreck, James Oldham, David Clarke, Moore T.

1807.  
Oct. 20,  
Mt. Airy

Tomlin, John Ferguson, John Sydnor, Jr., William Hall, Sr., Harrison Sydnor, Samuel Sydnor, William Packet, Jr., Reuben Pursell, William Clarke, Thos. P. Smith, Enoch George, Hugh Brent, William Brent, Thos. S. Beale, William Morgan, Thos. S. Davis, Thos. Stot, James G. Moore, George Pursell, Jr., Samuel B. Kelseck, John Garland, John Hughes, James Rose, Lewis Hammack.

A correct statement.

L. G. A. ARMISTEAD, Cornet N. W. V. C. I. D.

This return is truly extracted from the original, signed by the recruits themselves.

JOHN TAYLOE, Commandant.

#### JOHN TAYLOE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Oct. 29,  
Neabsco  
Furnace

Your favor by Mr. Boughton I had the honor to receive before I left Mountairy, and for your polite attention I pray you to accept my warmest thanks. Since the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith as collector at Norfolk, which will necessarily cause him to resign his present command, I have thought much on this subject, which leads me to say to you, if it be not incompatible with the common usage of the Executive on the like occasion, I should feel myself gratified in being honored with the appointment, which I am led to hope for from the following extract of your letter of the 21st of July last, which seems to infer that had there then been a vacancy of Colo. to the Regiment of Cavalry attached to the 4th Division, that probably I might at that time have obtained such a commission—viz.: "As however they cannot make two Lieutenants-Colonel commandants within the same Regiment, and as there is no vacancy in that office in the Regiment in which you reside, you will perceive the impracticability of the plan proposed." Now as such a vacancy has occurred, and as it will be perceived by reference to your Military Records, that I was commissioned as Captain of Cavalry attached to the 4th Division long before either of the present Majors attached to the Regiment was commissioned, (and did actually perform service in the year 1794), and was afterwards appointed by General Washington as a Major in Colo. Watts' Regiment of Dragoons in the year 1798,) which I suppose would rather be a recommendation than otherwise), I hope and trust it will not be thought presumptuous in me to ask what I have done on the present, and if *my former offer be appreciated by the Executive*, I am well persuaded on the present occasion they will be willing to confer on me what the laws of the State forbid their doing in the manner before requested.

You will have the goodness to excuse the trouble I impose on you, and believe me most respectfully.

Y<sup>rs</sup>, &c.

THOMAS RITCHIE TO PEYTON RANDOLPH.

It is with extreme reluctance that I have determined to adopt the course which I am now about to announce, and nothing but the strongest sense of the duty which I owe to myself as well as to the company which you command, could have induced me to pursue it. 1807.  
Nov. 9,  
Richmond

When I consented to accept the commission of an Ensign of your company, I had not the smallest doubt that my own engagements would have permitted me to discharge my duties towards the company with zeal, fidelity, and unremitted attention. Experience, however, has convinced me of my mistake. My own avocations are so pressing and so important, that I have found it impossible to attend to my military duties. It is incumbent on me, therefore, under such circumstances, to remove so useless a member from his office and to put it in the power of your Company to select some other ensign who is more capable than myself of discharging the duties of his appointment. I repeat, Sir, that it is with considerable regret that I feel myself compelled to adopt this resolution.

There are *many*, I am well satisfied, who are *much more competent* than myself to discharge the duties of an Ensign of your company, and into whose hands your standard can be safely and honorably confided. May it fall into the hands of some "Republican Blue" whose abilities are superior to my own! He can scarcely surpass me in my good wishes for the prosperity of your company.

I have the honor to enclose you my commission.

It is a fact for which indeed my pressing avocations, which have hitherto prevented me from referring to the Law, can form my only apology that I have not qualified to it.

You will do me the favor to have this letter read to the Company that they may take the necessary measures for the nomination of another Ensign.

With high respect, I remain, &c.

JAMES FAULKNER TO THE GOVERNOR.

I take the liberty of writing to you once more in regard to my company, since you have been so good as to forward commissions according to the wishes of the officers and men. Nov. 12,  
Martinsburg

I hope you will also be so kind as to let me know as soon as convenient if I can be furnished with sixty or seventy yellow mounted Swords, with Belts. The reason that I wish to know at this time is, that I will wait on General Dearborn, in the city of Washington. as soon as I receive your answer, to know if I cannot get two Field Pieces from the United

1867.  
Nov. 12,  
Martinsburg

States Armory at Harper's Ferry, as I wish to have every thing in readiness to muster early in the Spring.

I have the honor, &c.

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ARMISTEAD LONG TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 13,  
Richmond

Assigning reasons for not complying with the Governor's order for delivering a piece of Artillery in the possession of a Captain of Artillery in the 57th Regiment.

---

HENRY LEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 20,  
Bell Tavern

In the short conference the other day I mentioned to your Excellency my regret and mortification in not being ready with my return after the active and persevering exertions on my part to collect the pre-requisite materials.

I will only present to you a few of the many letters received on this subject, as I cannot occupy your time with perusals neither agreeable nor necessary.

If the present Militia system is relied on for defence, various amendments seem to me indispensable to enable the Government to avail itself of their services with dispatch and punctuality. My late experience warrants this remark. Be so good as to return me the papers, and please to say what I had best do with the accounts of my aids. I believe my use of them instead of expresses, has been attended with less expense to the public, and I am sure my objects have been much better attended to, and therefore I hope they will be compensated in a way consonant to their characters and stations.

Your Excellency's order of yesterday will be immediately put in execution, and I trust with that promptitude which military orders claim. The Brigade Majors will be obliged to pass from Regiment to Regiment to perform this duty. No other course so eligible occurs to me.

Your Excellency was pleased to say that you would decide on the Lieutenant-Colonel for the present tour in the 8th Brigade. I wish to know the officer previous to my preparation of my Return.

I have the honor to be, &c.

---

HENRY LEE (MAJOR-GENERAL) TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 23,  
Bell Tavern

Interested, as I must always feel, in the just compensation to all officers employed by me in the execution of the public service, I trust your

Excellency will excuse my submitting to you some observations in reply to your letter of the 21st Inst.

1807.  
Nov. 20,  
Bell Tavern

To the Commonwealth it is immaterial what sort of men were employed by me on the late militia call. The sole object (and a proper object) of the law was to limit the expence. If, therefore, the monthly pay allowed to aids applied in the present instance should be less than would be the legal pay to expresses, the tenets established by the law take full effect. It never could have been intended that, when real and important service was in preparation, the Major-General, to whom the law allows confidential officers, should be restrained from using them when their use would not overgoe the sum appropriated by law for such service. It is well known that in the sort of business in which I have been engaged, much discretion must be occasionally given to the bearer of orders. This could not be given to Expresses, so that on every new difficulty I should have been under the necessity of deciding by letter and forwarding that letter by an Express. This would have multiplied expence, but it would have been within the letter of the law. Foreseeing these difficulties, I employed my aids, instructing them on the various points, and authorizing their immediate decision agreeably to the principles laid down in my instructions. By this arrangement, time, as well as money, was saved, and from the then existing state of things I was more disposed to save time than cash.

I presume this law, as ought all laws of the sort, will be construed literally regarding its spirit, rather than its letter, especially as by such construction you promote the public service and save the public money. It will be a painful addition to the irksome obstructions, which interrupt the execution of my official duty, if the men on whom I lean for assistance, should be, as it were, inhibited from furnishing that assistance. Again, all the money paid on this occasion by the State will, I presume, be refunded by the U. States. In no other State is a Major-General deprived of his family assistance. We shall contribute to this remuneration, while our own citizens in the same character in our own State will receive no compensation for the performance of the same duties.

It cannot be proper to save the money of the Union by a policy too rigid and discouraging the Militia State Service. With all the exertions made by me and my aids, I blush when I acknowledge that even yet I have not all the materials for presenting to you my division Return, and I assure you no effort on my part has been withheld.

Permit me, as I am on the subject of military men and things, to touch for a moment another subject which has, or will, engage Executive attention. In the liberal construction given by Government to the land bounty law, the Officer who began with the war and went through the same, receives additional land, while the Officer who began at the same moment and meant also to go through the war, but was killed in battle,

1807.  
Nov. 23,  
Bell Tavern

receives not the same emolument. The law is referred to to uphold this decision. I must believe that no law of earth or heaven can sustain the opinion.

It never could be intended to encourage among the Troops of any nation, by that nation, a spirit of cowardice, the sure effect of the law thus interpreted. It never can be contended that an Officer killed in battle can be viewed in the law giving compensation for service as secondary to the officer surviving the battle. Justice and good policy unite in declaring that the man killed has served the full term, be it a year or years, for he has served to the last, not of the year or years, but of his life, and ought any law so to be construed as shall give to the living officer or his children what is denied to the children of him who fell in battle? I believe not.

I am sure your Excellency will not consider me as intruding on your time by this short tho' irrelevant exposition of some of the reasons which support the claims of the children of those of my comrades in the late war who fell fighting for their country. My mind was turned to the subject by understanding such claims would be presented to the Executive, and I could not refrain from saying something on the subject. I return the papers sent, and remain, with great respect,

Yours, &c.

---

WALTER JONES TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 25,  
Washington  
City

I take the liberty of addressing you at the particular solicitation of my friend, Mr. Tayloe, who is desirous of being appointed to the command of a Regiment of Dragoons vacant by the resignation of Mr. Larkin Smith, in which Regiment Mr. Tayloe is now a Captain. This service is not new to him, as he commanded a Troop of Horse in the Expedition against the Insurgents of Pennsylvania in the year 1794.

The long and intimate friendship that has subsisted between Mr. Tayloe and myself, is founded on my part on a conviction of his Probity and Honour, and this intercourse has been preserved under a great diversity of political sentiments.

I have deemed it proper to mention this circumstance without presuming to insinuate how far it ought or ought not to influence the decision of the Executive in the appointment in question.

With my apologies for this intrusion,

I am, &c.

---

ABRAM TRIGG TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 27,  
Washington  
City

Under circumstances which seriously threaten the peace of our country, a participation in the general sensibility will not be denied to me.



I therefore take the liberty to submit for consideration whether under the present aspect of our national affairs, it would not be advisable to select without respect to domestic political principles the most active and capable among us for military appointments.

1807.  
Nov. 27,  
Washington  
City

John Tayloe, Esq'r, of Mount Airy, informs me that Col. Larkin Smith, who commanded a Regiment of Cavalry in the 4th Division, hath resigned his commission, and that the vacancy remains to be filled.

On the fitness of Mr. Tayloe to fill the office, no commentaries are necessary, as he is known to each individual member of the Council. Suffice it for me to say, that Mr. Tayloe wishes to be appointed to that command, and that I have no doubt on my mind but that he would (should he meet with it) discharge the trust with alacrity, ability, and fitness.

I am, &c.

---

JOSEPH LEWIS, JR., TO THE GOVERNOR.

I understand that the appointment of an officer to succeed Col. Larkin Smith, lately appointed collector at Norfolk, remains yet to be made, and as it is important at all times, but particularly so when there is a prospect of active service, to select those who from their station in society, their Patriotism, zeal, and experience, are enabled to render the most essential services to their country, I take the liberty of bringing to the notice of your Excellency and the Council of State John Tayloe, Esq'r, of Mount Airy, Virginia. This Gentleman resides within the precincts of the Regiment lately commanded by Col. Smith, and is in every respect highly qualified to discharge the important duties of Commandant to that Regiment. Mr. Tayloe commanded a Troop of Horse on the Western Expedition very much to his own honor and the satisfaction of his men and the officers with whom he served; and I am told he now commands a detachment in the Regiment lately commanded by Col. Smith.

Nov. 27,  
Washington  
City

I have only to remark that from a very long and intimate acquaintance with Mr. Tayloe, I have no hesitation in believing that should he receive the appointment he anxiously solicits, that he will be an ornament to the service in which he may be engaged.

I am, &c.

---

THOS. JEFFERSON (PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES) TO THE GOVERNOR.

We have lately received from Europe 7 or 8 models of the swords most approved in practice there, out of which we have had selected two

Nov. 27,  
Washington  
City

1807.  
Nov. 27,  
Washington  
City

of the finest in the opinion of the best judges we have had an opportunity of consulting, foreigners as well as citizens. As the swords made at the manufactory of Virginia are spoken of as equal to any in the important article of temper. I have thought it might be useful to send you the two forms which we have selected, as besides their intrinsic merit they will give yours the advantage of identity of form with those of the General Government, all ours being hereafter to be of these forms.

General Dearborne tells me that some question arose under which of two laws the Virginia Militia should be paid for their late services; that he had been decided by the considerations, that the law giving rather higher pay to the privates, provided, in fact, no money for them, and made no provision at all for officers; that the other provided an appropriation, and fixed a pay as well for officers as men. That all the militia of Ohio, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Orleans having been paid under this law, the whole would be resettled and fractions of pay remitted to every individual if the Virginia Militia should be settled with under the former law. Under these circumstances I could not but think his decision was correct, as I trust you will yourself on a view of these circumstances.

I salute you with great friendship and respect, and am,

Y<sup>rs</sup>. &c.

---

BURWELL BASSETT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 28,  
Washington  
City

Recommending John Tayloe, Esq'r, as Colonel in lieu of Col. Larkin Smith appointed to the Collectorship of Norfolk.

---

JOHN M. GARNETT TO THE GOVERNOR.

Nov. 29,  
Washington  
City

Recommending John Tayloe, Esq'r, as Colonel of Cavalry in lieu of Col. Larkin Smith.

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H. DEARBORN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 2,  
War  
Department

It being very desirable that the actual state of the Militia of the United States should be known from year to year by the President of the United States and the Congress, I am directed to repeat the request heretofore made on that subject by the Governors of the respective States, and to desire each of them to give the necessary orders for having correct annual returns made out and transmitted to this department in the month of December.

I presume your Excellency will perceive the propriety of giving such directions as will ensure the punctual obtainment of so desirable an object.

I am, &c.

M. MILLER TO THE GOVERNOR.

I did not know until I rece'd the enclosed letter, that the tender of service of Volunteer Companies in this State was to be made to yourself, therefore. Sir, we the officers and privates of the Company of Cumberland Riflemen, under an act of Congress, passed the 24th of February, "authorizing the President of the U. States to accept a number of Volunteer companies not exceeding thirty thousand men," present ourselves to your Excellency in support of the rights of our country and await your answer.

1807.  
Dec. 3,  
Cumberland  
County

I am, &c.

To Capt. Maurice C. Miller and the Officers and Privates of the Company of Cumberland Riflemen:

The offer of your service in support of the rights of your country, merits and meets the highest praise, and whenever the moment arrives in which these rights must appeal to the public arm for support, the spirit from which your offer flows, that which actuates our nation, will be their sufficient safe guard.

Having requested from the Governors of the several States their certain quotas of Militia to be ready for service, I recommended at the same time the preference of Volunteer, under the act of Congress, and particularly that of the 24th of February, 1807, the acceptance and organization of such Volunteers has been delegated to them.

Tendering therefore the thanks of our country so justly deserved for all offers of service made to me, I must add that it is necessary to renew them to the Governor of the State for the purposes of acceptance and organization. I salute you with great respect.

Nov. 20th, 1807.

THO. JEFFERSON.

HENRY LEE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Notwithstanding the injunction in the enclosed, I venture to present it to your Excellency for perusal, such is my wish that you should know the merits of any Gentleman offering himself for Executive preference.

Dec. 5,  
Bell Tavern

The orders for muster and inspection were transmitted by me to Captain Tayloe, with the other officers of my division to whom they applied.

You will readily perceive the proper temper exhibited by this officer on the occasion—a disposition which I am sure will always influence him in every official act. To be deprived of the services of such an officer in the Cavalry of my division, especially in such a conjuncture of national affairs, will be to me a source of sincere regret. I hope your Excellency will avert the blow.

With great respect, I have, &c.

1807.  
Dec. 5,  
Bell Tavern

Henrico County, &c.:

I do certify that George W. Smith, Esq., this day took the oaths of a Privy Councillor before me, a Justice of the Peace for the said county, agreeable to Law.

Given under my hand this 15th day of December, 1807.

DAN. L. HYLTON.

#### ROBERT SMITH TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 23,  
Navy  
Department

I have the honor of herewith transmitting to you for your acceptance an impression of the Medal presented to the late Commodore Edward Preble in pursuance of the resolution of Congress of the 3rd of March, 1805.

Respectfully, &c.

*Federal Electors to Vote for President and Vice President, 1807, for 4th of March, 1808.*

James Madison Elected President; George Clinton, Vice President.

Peace, Union, and Commerce, and No Foreign Alliance.

Robert Taylor, Norfolk Borough; George K. Taylor, Prince George; Richard F. Taylor, Dinwiddie; John Nelson, Mecklenburg; Paul Carington, Sr., Charlotte; David Patterson, Chesterfield; Hudson Martin, Sr., Nelson; Isaac Otey, Bedford; John Campbell, Westmoreland; James H. Hooe, Fairfax; Judge Robert White, Frederick; James Stephenson, Berkeley; Robert Grattan, Rockingham; Jacob Swoope, Augusta; Gen. William Tate, Washington; George Adams, Pittsylvania; Benj'n Shepard, Henrico; Joseph F. Price, Hanover; Gen. Henry Young, King and Queen; Isaac Williams, Culpeper; Burr Powell, Loudoun; Judge Thos. Evans, Accomack; Robert Christian, New Kent; Noah Zane, Ohio; Charles Cameron, Bath.

#### II. DEARBORN TO THE GOVERNOR.

Dec. 26,  
War  
Department

The President of the United States having authorized the Governors of the respective States to accept Corps of Volunteers who may have offered their services in conformity to the act of Congress of the 24th of February, 1807, I am directed by him to request each of them to have such Volunteer Companies (who have so tendered their services) formed into Battalions or Regiments, to have suitable Field and Staff officers appointed to such Battalions or Regiments, and to direct correct returns of such Battalions or Regiments to be transmitted with the least possible

delay to this Department. In the mean time your Excellency will please to direct a return of the number of Companies of such Volunteers as have offered their services as above to be reported to this Department with as little delay as practicable, and will also please to have the remaining portion of your State's quota of the 100,000 Militia (ordered to be held in readiness for service) formed into Brigades, and where the number shall be such as to constitute more than one Brigade, or from three to four Regiments, to form a Division or Divisions according to the numbers, and also to assign or appoint suitable General Officers. with the necessary Staff.

1807.  
Dec. 28,  
War  
Department

I have the honor to be, &c.



# INDEX.

## A

ABRAHAM (Slave).	
Testimony of Ben Woolfolk, against; paper endorsed "Abram pardoned".....	156
ABRAM (Negro man).	
Condemned in Halifax court for insurrection; testimony of Bob and Robin, his brother.....	309-10
ADAMS, JOHN (President United States).	
Acknowledging receipt of intelligence of Act of Legislature of Virginia, authorizing the cession of the Marine Hospital at Norfolk to the United States.....	132
ADAMS, RICHARD, AND OTHERS.	
Report on repairs of Governor's house and furnishing same.....	73
Asking for ammunition for a patrol of 19th Regiment.....	278
Asking for order for cartridges for District Corps of Militia from 19th Regiment....	342
Order to deliver cartridges and flints for use of 19th Regiment.....	343
Concerning a district corps.....	348-9
Return of arms in possession of men of 19th Regiment .....	363
Informing of public arms in hands of 19th Regiment needing repairs.....	394
Informing of appointment of Tunstall Banks a sergeant and six men as guard at jail.....	398
ALEXANDER, AMOS (Mayor of Alexandria).	
Informing Governor of some cases of yellow-fever in the town, brought from Norfolk.....	137
ALEXANDRIA, TOWN OF.	
Consent of Council to a division of the 60th Regiment; request to corporation court and to county court of Fairfax to nominate officers.....	15
ALLAN, JAMES.	
Informing Governor of alarm in Fredericksburg about yellow-fever at Norfolk; asking for quarantine.....	129
Informing of death of two men from Norfolk on schooner William and Mary.....	137
Report of health of crews of vessels at Fredericksburg.....	174
ALLEN, JOHN.	
Elected member of Privy Council.....	3
ALLEN, RICHARD.	
Certificate of arms issued to Captain Roger Gregory and Captain Reuben George...	38
ALLEN, WILSON.	
Certificate of citizenship of Robert Walker, James Dunlop, Jr., John Chalmers, and Thomas Colquhoun.....	29
Certificate of allotment of judges to districts.....	56
ALLEN, WM. O.	
Soliciting a commission in military service.....	536
ANDERSON, ROBT.	
Informing of the bad condition of the arms in possession of Williamsburg militia..	430

Requesting arms, &c., for Infantry Rifle Company and a hands of Captain Allen's militia.....	520
PERSON, ANDREW. Soliciting arms, &c., for Infantry Rifle Company and a Regiment, Augusta militia.....	267
PERSON, LEROY. Forwarding resolutions of citizens of Williamsburg relative to firing on Frigate Chesapeake by Ship-of-War Leopard.....	116
ONYMOUS LETTER. Advising the ordering out of Petersburg Light Horse on account of danger of in- surrection .....	284
ARCHER, E. Commissioner of Marine Hospital.....	19 219 300
ARCHER, JOHN. Recommended by court of Amelia as escheator for the county.....	63
ARMS. Statement of number issued from arsenal from May 24th, 1792, to April 17th, 1799, Distribution of..... Report of number of in hands of 19th Regiment May 14th, 1802.....	301
ARMSTRONG, M. Resigning commission as captain of cavalry in 3d Regiment.....	228
ARTHUR (Negro). Condemned in court of Norfolk for insurrection; testimony of Lewis.....	15
ATHERTON, DANIEL. Appointed Assistant Master Armorer.....	3
ATKINSON, JOHN. Account for going express with public dispatches.....	
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. Advising immediate appointment of agents to purchase for Commonwealth lands taken under execution on public account, not sold for want of bidders.....	
AUSTIN, WM. Asks if a patrol is desired for night of December 27th..... Reports an unsuccessful search up James river by troop of cavalry for prisoners escaped from penitentiary.....	
AYLETT, WM. Elected member House of Delegates from King William .....	
Represent the unprepared condition of their company to obey orders to take the field at one hour's notice; return of Captain Aylett's company.....	
Qualified as Privy Councillor 31st day of May, 1806.....	
AYRES, RITCHIE. Solicits arms for light infantry company of 61st Regiment.....	

## B

BAKER, JOHN. Certificate of Cyrus Saunders, escheator of Jefferson county, of service of Baker as attorney.....	
BAILEY, JAMES C. Certificate as clerk Sussex county recommending militia officers..... Giving remission of fine for playing faro in Staunton.....	



<b>BAILEY, THOS. H.</b> Informing Governor that there reside in Accomac four old native Indians who require support, and asking the intervention of the Executive.....	277
<b>BALL, WM.</b> Concerning the apprehension of negroes under suspicion of insurrection.....	266
<b>BALFOUR, GEORGE.</b> Soliciting appointment as health officer for Norfolk.....	291
<b>BANK OF ALEXANDRIA.</b> Statement of books, &c.....	71
<b>BARNET &amp; FOX (Contractors).</b> Desiring to know the difference between framing of the roof of penitentiary house and plan agreed upon.....	27
<b>BARRET, A.</b> Proposition for shingling roof of penitentiary.....	48
<b>BARTON, J. S.</b> Soliciting arms for troop cavalry attached to 3d Regiment.....	485
<b>BASSETT BURWILL.</b> Security on Treasurer's bond.....	67
Recommending John Taylor as Colonel in lieu of Col. Larkin Smith.....	614
<b>BATES, MOSES.</b> Account for foundation for Armory, certified by John Clarke.....	30
<b>BAYLEY, THOMAS M.</b> Soliciting sixty-four stand of arms for light infantry of 2d Regiment.....	342
Enclosing enrolment of light infantry of Accomac; asking for swords and guns to be sent to Norfolk.....	351
<b>BAYLEY, THOMAS H.</b> Soliciting arms for a company of the 2d Regiment; number of troops in Accomac county.....	195
Soliciting arms for troop of cavalry raised in Accomac.....	277
<b>BAYLOR, FRANCIS.</b> Pleading for the pardon of a criminal ordered for execution on 5th of September next.....	135
<b>BAYTOP, JAMES.</b> Soliciting command of a regiment of militia under organization.....	28
<b>BEALE, COL. REUBEN.</b> Concerning correction in date of comission of Captain Lightfoot.....	126
<b>BEATTE, H.</b> Soliciting arms, &c., for cavalry companies of Captain Eben Taylor and Lieutenant Bonan.....	511
<b>BECKLEY, JOHN.</b> Recommending Wm. McLaws as manufacturer of soldiers' equipments..	133
<b>BEDINGER, H.</b> Certificate of recommendations of county court of Berkeley county of sundry militia officers .....	54
Concerning his indebtedness to Society of Cincinnati of Virginia.....	338
<b>BELL, HENRY.</b> Solicits appointment as superintendent of arsenal contemplated; recommendations enclosed .....	17
<b>BELL, FERGUSON.</b> Recommended as captain of new troop of cavalry to be raised in Frederick county	25

<b>BENNETT, J.</b>	
Evidence regarding condemned negroes, Jeremiah and Ned, discovered after their sentence.....	299
<b>BENNETT, JAMES.</b>	
Enclosing bill for gun-carriages, limbers and harness, repairs, cost of ammunition, &c.....	323
<b>BENTLEY, WM.</b>	
Asking loan of powder from State's magazine with which to do honor to memory of General Washington on the 22d of February.....	92
Soliciting his aid and presence in the demonstration to be made on 22d February..	94
Returning powder loaned by State.....	113
Giving the opinion that no cause for apprehension of insurrection on south side of river exists.....	138
<b>BERKELEY, CARTER.</b>	
Security on Treasurer's bond.....	67
<b>BERKELEY, LEWIS.</b>	
Solicits increase in salary as second clerk in Treasury.....	105
<b>BERKELEY COUNTY.</b>	
Order of, that John Vance be recommended as captain of musketry company, 67th Regiment..	54
Petition of numerous citizens for and against the appointment of Alexander Fleming, Wm. Wilson and Samuel Boyd as justices.....	68
<b>BERKELEY, WM.</b>	
Official bond as Treasurer of Virginia is filed.....	1
Statement of balance in Treasury April 8th, 1799.....	17
Concerning the mode of selling tobacco received from tenants on Bristoe estate.....	27
Anxiety for safety of public money in a wooden chest.....	55
Elected Treasurer of Commonwealth.....	64
Official bond as Treasurer of Commonwealth on file.....	67
Second bond as Treasurer of Commonwealth on file.....	68
Asking advice as to retaining funds in Treasury for meeting loss on tobacco burnt in warehouse in Petersburg.....	93
Report on condition of Treasury.....	94-5
Reporting balance in Treasury.....	111
Suggesting the propriety of a guard about the Capitol temporarily.....	117-18
Reporting balance in Treasury.....	120
Reporting balance in Treasury.....	192-3
Soliciting instructions as to payment for slaves executed; stating balance in Treasury on 1st December.....	194
Bond as Treasurer, with five securities, is lodged.....	195
Asking advice as to selling public tobacco in Treasury.....	196
Stating condition of Treasury.....	203
Reporting balance in Treasury with apprehensions of deficiency.....	206
Report of tobacco received at Treasury in discharge of taxes.....	208
Official bond as Treasurer, with securities, on file.....	271
Elected Treasurer of Commonwealth.....	271
Official bond as Treasurer Commonwealth lodged.....	286
Report of sales public tobacco.....	314
Asking for Commonwealth to count cash in Treasury.....	321
<b>BILLY (Slave).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	144
Testimony of Ben against.....	145
Recommended by court for mercy; endorsed "Pardoned October 1st, 1800".....	157
<b>BINNS, C. (Clerk Loudoun county).</b>	
Desires certified copy of appointment of Col. John Alexander as agent for heirs of J. Monkhouse.....	317
<b>BLACKMORE, SAM'L.</b>	
Recommended as captain 55th Regiment.....	54

# INDEX.

623

<b>BLAIR, A.</b>	
Certificate of order for letter to be written by Adjutant-General to officers, concerning returns of arms, &c .....	87
Final decision of Council as to payment to Swan on account of arms.....	104
Concerning an effort to remove him from the clerkship of the Council.....	115
<b>BLAIR, JOHN.</b>	
Petition for use of assembly room for performance of Divine service.....	68
<b>BLOW, RICH'D.</b>	
Report of work done, and the navigable condition of Dismal Swamp Canal throughout; asking for extension of time for its completion.....	480-1
<b>BLUNT, BENJAMIN.</b>	
Certificate that sundry slaves, condemned for murder, had been imported from Maryland and sold to Harris & Butte, citizens of Georgia; case submitted to Executive .....	52
<b>BOARD OF INSPECTORS OF PENITENTIARY.</b>	
Complaints against Martin Mims, keeper.....	310
<b>BOB (Slave).</b>	
Condemned in court of Nottoway county for insurrection; testimony of Hampton and Ned.....	273
<b>BOLLING, L.</b>	
Stating that as agent for State he had rented part of public land in Buckingham; other part could not be rented.....	340
Recommending renting plantation on public lands near New Canton from three to five years.....	365
Informing of leasing public land near New Canton for ensuing year.....	380
Informing of collection of rent due on public land in Buckingham county.....	398
Resigning agency for superintending public lands in Buckingham county; recommending Col. Wm. Cameron for same.....	415
<b>BOOTH, ROBT.</b>	
Recommended by court of Sussex as Colonel Commandant in place of Wm. Massenburg, resigned.....	59
Offers to collect revenue of 1799 if time is allowed.....	114
<b>BOOTH, MORDECAI.</b>	
Soliciting arms for cavalry company called Brunswick Republican Blues.....	304
Soliciting arms and accoutrements made at State armory for Brunswick troop, of which he is captain.....	370
<b>BOTTS, BENJAMIN.</b>	
Informing Governor of the employment of General Minor as assistant counsel in a case of an injunction of escheat.....	483
<b>BOWLER, JACK.</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	159
Testimony of Ben Woolfolk, Price's John, and Prosser's Sam .....	159-60
<b>BOWYER, JOHN.</b>	
Elected Elector of President and Vice-President of United States.....	189
<b>BOYLIN, JENNY (alias Baylor).</b>	
Returning thanks for pardon, &c.....	343
<b>BRANCH, BOLLING.</b>	
Soliciting arms for troop 1st Regiment and 1st Division.....	451
Soliciting arms for troop of cavalry raised in Buckingham.....	477
<b>BRANCH, THOMAS.</b>	
Asking that members of 23d Regiment Militia be allowed to retain their present uniform .....	487-8
<b>BRANG, PETER, AND OTHERS.</b>	
To furnish arms; stating terms.....	213

<b>BRADLEY, JAMES.</b> Recommended by county court of Washington as major of 105th Regiment.....	42
<b>BREAM, JAMES.</b> Desiring to be informed what number will be necessary to constitute a company to have their officers commissioned.....	549
<b>BRECKENRIDGE, JAMES.</b> Promising to collect 122 stand arms issued to his Regiment.....	113
<b>BRENT, RICH'D.</b> Elector of President and Vice-President United States.....	75
<b>BRENT, DANIEL CARROLL.</b> Elected Elector of President and Vice-President United States.....	189
<b>BRIGADE AGENTS.</b> Sundry agents appointed.....	503
<b>BROKENBOROUGH, WILLIAM.</b> Qualified as member of Privy Council.....	360
<b>BROOKE, ROBERT.</b> Information from the escheator for Frederick concerning claim of Commonwealth to estate of Bryan Martin.....	12
<b>BROOKE, H.</b> Certificate of election of Wilson Cary Nicholas as Senator of United States and of James Monroe Governor of Virginia.....	60
Certificate of election of Archibald Stuart as Judge of the General Court, in room of James Henry, resigned.....	74
<b>BROOKE, EDMUND.</b> Report of himself and others concerning condition of court-house and lot at Hay-market.....	397
<b>BROOKE COUNTY.</b> Recommendation of militia officers made by court June 27th, 1803.....	363
<b>BROOKE, FRANCIS.</b> Asking instruction as to trial of Newell Walton for stealing East Indians.....	315-16
<b>BROOKE, LAWRENCE, AND OTHERS.</b> Petition for pardon negro John.....	35
<b>BROOKS, SAM'L.</b> Thanking for protection.....	394
<b>BROWN, JOHN.</b> Elected brigadier-general of Brigade of Hampshire, Hardy and Pendleton.....	4
Elector President and Vice-President United States.....	75
Requesting to have a room for office as Clerk of Court of Appeals.....	188
Elected Judge of District Court of Chancery, to be held at Staunton.....	276
<b>BROWNE, JOEL.</b> Letter denying having emancipated negro Isaac, convicted of the murder of Butte and Seirs.....	62
<b>BROUGH, ROBT.</b> Soliciting office of notary public in place of Thos. Newton, Jr., elected to Congress, Soliciting appointment as notary public in Norfolk in room of Sam'l G. Harrison, deceased.....	180 187
<b>BROUGH, WM.</b> Forwarding resolutions of citizens of Hampton relative to British Ship Leopard...	521
<b>BUCHANAN, ALEX.</b> Claiming sheriffalty of Wythe county.....	36

# INDEX.

625

<b>BUCHANAN, JOHN.</b>	
Petition for use of assembly room for performance of Divine service.....	68
<b>BUCKNER, COL. THOMAS.</b>	
Informing of the remnant of arms furnished Captain Warner Lewis' company.....	119
<b>BYARS, J., Jr.</b>	
Informing of efforts made to discourage artificers from coming to Richmond.....	215
<b>BYRD, SAM. (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	154

## C

<b>CABELL, WM. H.</b>	
Elector President and Vice-President United States.....	75
Elected Governor.....	458
Certificate of continuance of Mary Windham on list of pensioners.....	486
<b>CALL, JACOB.</b>	
To Sam'l Coleman, informing him that the arms of his company went into care of Captain J. Weisiger; afterwards to Lieutenant Alex. Taylor.....	38
<b>CALLIS, W. J.</b>	
To Governor, acknowledging receipt of 130 stand of arms for 40th Regiment... ..	384
<b>CAMPBELL, ROBERT.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning the dispute with Mr. Robert Preston about the colonelcy of the 105th Regiment.....	44
To the Governor, enclosing recommendations of court of Washington for militia officers; difficulty of collecting muster fines.....	187
<b>CAMPBELL, JOHN.</b>	
Certificate of soldierly conduct of Robert Campbell.....	56-7
<b>CAMPBELL, JAMES.</b>	
To the Governor, report on progress made in the improvement in navigation of Appomattox river, and prospects of same.....	329-30
<b>CAMPBELL, ARTHUR.</b>	
To the Governor, forwarding certificate of Captain M. Lewis on the subject of the dividing line between Virginia and North Carolina.....	504-5
<b>CAMERON, CHARLES.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of death of John Oliver, sheriff of Bath county..	17
<b>CAPERTON, H.</b>	
To the Governor, protesting against right of Wm. Hutcheson to act as magistrate on account of non-residence.....	18
<b>CARBERRY, HENRY.</b>	
To the Governor, asking Executive interference in behalf of negro Jack Neale, who murdered his purchaser while descending the Ohio river.....	288
<b>CARGILL, JOHN.</b>	
Elected member House of Delegates from Sussex county.....	227
<b>CARN, FRANK.</b>	
To Wm. Wirt, action of the citizens of Williamsburg to quell an apprehended insurrection.....	274-5
<b>CARR, ELIZABETH.</b>	
Certificate of clerk of Caroline court that she is still entitled to her pension.....	278
<b>CARRINGTON, E.</b>	
To the Governor, recommending Captain James Spears, of Cumberland, for procuring arms for his company.....	18

To the Governor, asking for a loan of specie from the treasury of Virginia where- with to pay troops about to be disbanded, and returning thanks therefor.....	116-17
To the Governor, concerning military bounty lands due to officers and soldiers of Virginia Continental line.....	103-4
To the Governor, enclosing resolution of commissioners of Bank of Virginia that the chairman be requested to inform the Executive that a sufficient number of shares have been subscribed for to commence operations of the Bank of Virginia,	403
To the Governor, opinion as to legality of trial of negro Billy.....	480-1
Certificate as to the character of Simon Morgan as an officer of the Virginia line on Continental establishment.....	495
<b>CARRINGTON, PAUL.</b>	
Alotted judge of districts Richmond, Petersburg, Brunswick Courthouse, and Stafford .....	56
To the Governor, resigning office of Judge of the Court of Appeals.....	500
<b>CARTER, CHARLES.</b>	
To the Governor; report of work done in improving road from Mockasin Gap to Powell's Valley, in Lee county.....	458-8
<b>CARTER, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of his intention of resigning office of assistant auditor .....	493
<b>CARTER, THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor, inquiring as to his eligibility as captain while holding collector- ship of revenue under Federal Government.....	119
<b>CARTER, WM.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting appointment as surgeon at penitentiary and barracks..	278
<b>CARUTHERS, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor; certificate of election occasioned by Col. Andrew Moore's ap- pointment as Senator of United States.....	425
<b>CARY, SAM'L.</b>	
To Sam'l Coleman; refers to Major Thos. Lewis, commandant of artillery, for re- port of arms.....	41
<b>CARY, RICHARD.</b>	
To Sam'l Coleman; return of number and condition of arms issued to 1st Battalion 68th Regiment.....	40
<b>CAVALRY.</b>	
Instructions for arming, as received by Executive.....	447-8
<b>CAVENDISH, W. H.</b>	
Certificate of the injustice of a bill passed in 1796 for assessing lands in Greenbrier, Kanawha, and Randolph counties.....	14
<b>CHALMERS, JOHN.</b>	
Admitted a citizen of the United States.....	29
Admitted a citizen of the United States 13th June, 1802.....	331
<b>CHARLES.</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection..	144
Testimony of Patrick and Ben, against.....	145
<b>CHEVALLIE, J. A.</b>	
To the Governor, respecting a decree from Court of Appeals for amount due Beau- marchais; urging that the General Assembly be requested to provide for its pay- ment.....	371
To Sam'l Coleman, declining appointment of Inspector of Penitentiary for second term .....	403
<b>CHEWNING, WM.</b>	
Certificate of election of Henry Lee member House of Representatives of United States .....	22

<b>CHEW, JOHN.</b>	
Certificate of service of Francis T. Brooke as counsel for Commonwealth in case of Wm. Stanton .....	341
<b>CHEW, ROBT.</b>	
To the Governor, transmitting statement of Commissioner of Peace for Spotsylvania county; inquiry concerning the right of Joseph Pollard to act as Justice while a contractor for carrying mail .....	456-7
<b>CHEATHAM, COL. MATHEW.</b>	
To the Governor: has received no arms from Col. Patterson as yet .....	120
To the Governor, promising to send men from Chesterfield as soon as collected in Manchester .....	139
To the Governor, relating to removal of arms from Manchester to the penitentiary .....	181
<b>CHILTON, C. S.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him that Lynchburg Independent Infantry had offered services for twelve months .....	599
<b>CHISHOLM, DAVID.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for company of infantry in 74th Regiment .....	440
<b>CITIZENS OF VIRGINIA.</b>	
Permitted to qualify since October 1st, 1802 .....	370-1
<b>CLAIBORNE, MAJOR RICHARD.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning the distribution of the Virginia resolutions in Monongahelia county .....	111-12
<b>CLAIBORNE, THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor, accepting commission for superintending election for President and Vice-President .....	131-2
<b>CLAIBORNE, W.</b>	
Testimony of servant girl as to contemplated insurrection .....	265
<b>CLARKE, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning complaint of bricklayers of want of lime; advising purchase of bar iron in Richmond and Manchester .....	32
To the Governor; reports that Mr. Bates asks extra pay for drains of trip-hammer forges .....	50-51
To the Governor; opinion of price charged by Ninnan Wise for masonry at Armory; materials needed to prepare the penitentiary to receive convicts .....	56
To the Governor, enclosing two proposals for bricks and lime for penitentiary .....	74
To the Governor, enclosing sundry bills for work on armory and penitentiary .....	105
To the Governor, urging purchase of cypress shingles for the armory .....	107
To the Governor, informing him concerning prices asked for shingles by Dismal Swamp Company .....	110
To the Governor, concerning cleaning and stamping arms with name of county and No. of Regiment .....	114
To the Governor, asking for experts to measure brick work of Wise & Carney on armory .....	119
To the Governor, relating to the distribution of arms to the counties and towns, with list of same .....	122-3
To the Governor, concerning exchange of arms of militia, &c.; plank wall about jail; report of work on penitentiary and armory .....	175-8
To the Governor; report of quality of arms forwarded by Swan, and those placed in penitentiary by his agents .....	179-80
To the Governor, informing him of more brick needed for armory, and John Harvie's proposal for all wanted .....	180
To the Governor, enclosing George Williamson's proposals for repairing arms at penitentiary .....	181
To the Governor, relating to loan of arms for Col. Mayo's Regiment for parade .....	181-2
To the Governor, relating to receipt of arms at penitentiary from militia in bad order; refused to pay Williamson his price for repairing them .....	182-3
To the Governor, informing him of the intention of Jesse Payne, a contractor, to remove without accounting for advancements .....	186

To the Governor, relating to proposed modification in contract of John Harvie for bricks and lime.....	187
To the Governor, enclosing proposals of Barret & McKim for carpenters' work on keeper's house at penitentiary.....	192
To the Governor, advising the importation of tools for manufacturing arms from Birmingham, with list of same.....	205
To the Governor, advice as to proper size of bells for Capitol, penitentiary, and armory ..	206
To the Governor, suggests that he should go North on business of armory; that small houses be built for use of artificers.....	207
To the Governor, informing him as to his plan of building manufactory of arms and conducting the work; number of artificers to be employed, &c. &c.....	208-12
To the Governor; reports various proposals for manufacture of arms; recommends a firm in Lancaster, Pa., &c.....	216
To the Governor; report on quality of arms sent by McCormick.....	228
To the Governor, letters of, relating to construction of Penitentiary House, Public Warehouse, and Manufactory of Arms; procuring artificers during 1801.....	228
To the Governor; report on an eligible storehouse for arms; recommending garret of Capitol with alterations.....	228-9
To the Governor, concerning the valuation of stone work done at armory by Wise & Carney; also, stamping of arms from Point of Fork.....	231
To the Governor, informing him of preparation of garret at Capitol for arms, and plan for tobacco warehouse.....	230-1
To the Governor, enclosing estimates of Holloway & McKim for cost of painting for public buildings ..	234
To the Governor, suggesting that he be empowered to purchase certain materials during his journey North; informing of a dangerous crack in chimney of Capitol	234-5
To the Governor, enclosing form of agreement with artificers, which he recommends.....	235-6
To the Governor, observations made in shops of Maryland and Pennsylvania; dis- appointment in purchasing supplies and bells at the north; compensation to General Shee ..	236-40
To the Governor; no gunsmiths to be hired in New York; New York penitentiary contains valuable conveniences ..	240-1
To the Governor; efforts made to engage the best artificers for armory; desire to obtain services of Henry Foxall for cannon foundry; contracted in Philadelphia for boilers for penitentiary.....	241-5
Report of failure of John Harvie to supply the bricks contracted for for peniten- tiary and manufactory of arms.....	245-7
To Henry Foxall, enquiring his charge for introducing his improvements into can- non foundry at Richmond.....	247-8
To James Byers, concerning effort made by Ames to dissuade artificers from coming to Virginia.....	248-9
To Col. Joseph Williams, concerning efforts to prevent armorers from coming to Virginia; denying the employing of one Watson.....	249-50
To the Governor, concerning procuring lumber for public warehouse.....	251
To the Governor, recommending an additional story to the kitchen of manufactory of arms.....	251-2
To the Governor, informing him of the duplicity practiced by Ames, superintend- ent of manufactory at Smithfield, and others, in preventing artificers from coming to Virginia ..	252-4
To the Governor, informing him that James Carney desires to have contract for extra stone work at manufactory of arms.....	254
To the Governor, stating the duties of all the officers of the manufactory of arms, when in operation.....	254-5
To the Governor, concerning the cooking apparatus for the penitentiary contract- ed for in Philadelphia ..	255-6
To the Governor; report of state of penitentiary house and manufactory of arms, and probable time of completion.....	256-7
To the Governor, defending himself against charges of incompetency in the super- intendency of building of manufactory of arms.....	258-61
To the Governor; estimate of expense for completing the manufactory of arms and penitentiary; the purchase of tools and materials; support of artificers.....	268-70
To the Governor, advising that apparatus for manufactory of arms should be fixed up by a master armorer, and pork provided for artists.....	271
To the Governor, informing him of arrival of invoice of tools shipped by John Hodgson, of Birmingham, Eng.....	274
Statement of accounts of various parties for work on manufactory of arms and penitentiary ..	286



To the Governor, sending suggestions regarding work on public warehouse: materials for arms, &c., &c.....	288
To the Governor, informing him that Mr. John Taylor has the broken bell formerly belonging to the Capitol, which he desired to purchase at one shilling per pound.....	292
To the Governor, advising the employment of apprentices in the manufacture of arms.....	292
To the Governor, informing him of necessary alteration of Latrobe's plan of penitentiary.....	300
To the Governor: advises as to kind of work for convicts.....	301-2
To the Governor, enclosing copy of letter to Henry Foxall to ascertain his charge for introducing his improvements into the Richmond Armory.....	302
To the Governor, information concerning shipment of gun-flints not ordered.....	302
To the Governor, concerning foundation of boring mill for ordnance.....	310
To the Governor, informs him that no seasoned walnut timber can be found for gun-stocks.....	311
To the Governor, informing him of stone inserted over entrance to penitentiary for an inscription: Mr. Wythe requested to furnish inscription.....	314
To the Governor, announcing death of Mr. George; thinks there need be no one appointed to fill vacancy.....	317
To the Governor, informing him of prices for slate and tile in New York and Philadelphia.....	321
To the Governor, concerning the introduction of Foxall's improvements into armory at Richmond.....	323
To the Governor, informing him of submitting sundry samples of muskets for comparison with those of our own manufacture.....	324
To the Governor, informing him of arrival of slate for public warehouse: recommending an advance of fifteen hundred dollars on same.....	329
To the Governor: advice for procuring the implements for manufacturing arms, and appointment of superintendent of armory; Clarke's election as superintendent.....	332-4
To the Governor, estimate for cost of one ration; advising that another master armorer engaged in Massachusetts be ordered on, and fifteen tons of iron.....	344
To the Governor, informing of fire at armory; advising purchase of fire engine; advising arming of artificers.....	354-5
To the Governor, stating objections to stamping arms made at Wheeler's manufactory, or any other.....	355
To the Governor; report of state of contracts for erection of manufactory of arms and penitentiary.....	355-6
To the Governor, informing him of dissatisfaction of artificers at armory at not receiving pay; concerning balls of calibre to suit rifles; stamping arms; rebuilding bridge at armory.....	357-8
To the Governor, proposal of A. Barrett for material for wooden enclosure to penitentiary.....	360
To the Governor, relative to permission to contract with artificers at manufactory of arms for shorter term than three years; asking that the pay-roll of armory be passed the day of writing.....	360-1
To the Governor, forwarding proposals for putting on slate roof on public warehouse; also reporting bridge at armory built and paid for by Mr. Rutherford.....	367
To the Governor, stating number of arms completed in manufactory of arms; the disposition of same.....	373
To the Governor, informing him that appropriations for completing manufactory of arms, public warehouse, and penitentiary were not made; seeking aid of Executive to prevent stoppage of these works.....	375
To the Governor; report that it is impossible to inspect arms stored in roof of Capitol for want of light; advises they be taken to armory for repairs.....	379
To the Governor, advice concerning the use of fire engine at armory on private property; that same should not be taken further than the Market Bridge; that artificers should be divided into armory guard and fire company.....	379-80
To the Governor, advises purchase of 6,000 gun-stocks for armory from United States at Philadelphia; informs Board of stamping arms.....	380
To the Governor, advising that advertisements for more artificers be sent to Northern newspapers.....	384-5
To the Governor; report of expense of making arms, and of amounts needed to complete penitentiary, manufactory of arms, and public warehouse.....	385-7
To the Governor, asking instructions as to employment of additional workmen at manufactory of arms; also, whether to proceed to completion of all buildings of armory; as to unfinished contracts; as to fowling pieces for private parties.....	388

- To the Governor, informing him that the money for erection of steeple on manufactory of arms had been provided for in last appropriation..... 389
- To the Governor, informing him that public warehouse, though incomplete, can receive tobacco..... 390
- To the Governor, asking instructions as to making blades of cavalry swords; also, if swords may be made at armory for General Mason and Wm. Munford, who ask the privilege..... 391-2
- To the Governor, forwarding proposals of John Tinsley for making pistol holsters and sword-belts..... 393
- To the Governor, asking instructions concerning ordnance belonging to Commonwealth, scattered in many places..... 399-402
- To the Governor, informing him of delivery of holsters and sword-belts by Capt. John Tinsley; leather not satisfactory..... 411
- To the Governor, asking instructions as to which pieces of ordnance in rivers and elsewhere in State are considered State's property..... 414
- To the Governor, calling attention of Council to monthly report on pay-rolls of work of all kinds done, as preferable to quarterly report asked for..... 415
- To the Governor; report of arms made between December 1st, 1803, and December 1st, 1804..... 430-3
- To the Governor; report on contract of M. Davis for delivering slate for public warehouse; amount claims unsettled for work done on public warehouse..... 435
- To the Governor, suggesting that holsters, sword-belts, and cartridge boxes be made by convicts in penitentiary..... 436
- To the Governor, soliciting arms for Captain Standard's Rifle Company of Spotsylvania county..... 449
- To the Governor, informing of his intentions respecting securing gun-stocks from Captain Potter..... 462
- To the Governor; estimate of sums necessary for manufactory of arms, penitentiary, and James River Canal Warehouse..... 463-4
- To the Governor; General Shee desires reimbursement for funds disbursed for gun-stocks in excess of appropriation..... 473
- To the Governor, giving his design for the sword to be presented by the State to Lieutenant O'Bannon..... 475-6
- To the Governor, soliciting arms for Crutchfield's company cavalry of Spotsylvania..... 482
- To Col. Matthew Harvey, acknowledging receipt of iron at manufactory of arms.. 495-6
- To the Governor, informing him of distribution of arms to cavalry, and number undistributed..... 497-8
- To the Governor; report of arms of Gloucester county sent to the armory..... 501
- To the Governor, informing him of removal of Cyrus Edson, Lieutenant in First Company Independent Corps Artificers; officers petition for appointment of Levi Peck ensign to vacancy, and Robert Stewart as ensign..... 504
- To the Governor, advising that orders be sent to Captain Woodward to land State arms at Smithfield to prevent capture..... 528
- To the Governor; report of number of arms and accoutrements in manufactory... 535-6
- To the Governor; informs that Captain Richard B. Goode recommends Samuel Taylor as lieutenant and James Clarke as ensign in the Virginia Legion..... 589
- To the Governor, proposing to go to Georgetown to obtain information relative to placing Foxall's improvements into the boring mill; asking instruction as to procuring apparatus from Foxall for foundry..... 595
- CLARKE, CHARLES.**
- To the Governor, praying remission of fine imposed by a court-martial..... 41
- CLARKE, CHRISTOPHER.**
- To the Governor, inquiring if Joseph Holt, a justice of the peace, by accepting appointment from Federal Government, did not forfeit his seat as magistrate..... 188
- CLARKE, THOMAS M.**
- To the Governor, asking that muskets designed for 53d Regiment of Campbell county be sent to Lynchburg to Captain Thos. W. Cocke; also, that a piece of artillery at New London be sent to Lynchburg..... 396-7
- CLOPTON, JOHN.**
- Elected member Privy Council in room of Samuel McCraw ..... 62
- Qualifies as member of Council..... 114
- COBURN, JOHN, AND OTHERS, OF KENTUCKY.**
- Commissioners on boundary line to commissioners of Virginia, proposing to meet at forks of Big Sandy, October 1st..... 33-4

COCKE, THOMAS W.

To the Governor, soliciting arms and accoutrements for company of artillery attached to 53d Regiment, and for piece at New London, and one other from Richmond. 370

COCKE, RICHARD, AND OTHERS.

To the Governor, asking appointment of Charles L. Abrams as quartermaster to their troop. 339

COHORN, JOHN B.

To the Governor, representing the readiness of Captain Eichhorn's company to meet the call if furnished with arms; the 56th Regiment and a company of militia thereto attached is destitute of arms. 340

COLEMAN, SAMUEL.

To the Governor, statement of arms issued to militia as per return of said return. 37  
To the Governor, stating the distribution of arms under a Resolution of Assembly of 28th December, 1797, sent from arsenal to Wagoner's company. 38  
To the Governor, report of arms returned by Captain John S. Matthews and their company. 39  
To the Governor, forwarding reports of militia officers, arms, accoutrements. 39  
To the Governor, report of condition of arms, accoutrements, &c. received by K. S. Matthews. 40  
To the Governor, report of public arms issued to militia made up of January, 1798. 40  
To the Governor, enclosing copy of statement of public arms issued by order of Executive since May, 1797, &c. &c. 41  
To the Governor, enclosing papers of volunteer company, accoutrements, and a return of arms. 42  
To the Governor, enclosing as evidence attached to support claims for military land certificates. 43  
To the Governor, forwarding the petition from Mrs. Thomas S. Matthews, for the State for compensation. 44  
To the Governor, stating number of copies of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 45  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 46  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 47  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 48  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 49  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 50  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 51  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 52  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 53  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 54  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 55  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 56  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 57  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 58  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 59  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 60  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 61  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 62  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 63  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 64  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 65  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 66  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 67  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 68  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 69  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 70  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 71  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 72  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 73  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 74  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 75  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 76  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 77  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 78  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 79  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 80  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 81  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 82  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 83  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 84  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 85  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 86  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 87  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 88  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 89  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 90  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 91  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 92  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 93  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 94  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 95  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 96  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 97  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 98  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 99  
To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 100

COLEMAN, SAMUEL.

To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 101

COLEMAN, SAMUEL.

To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 102

COLEMAN, SAMUEL.

To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 103

COLEMAN, SAMUEL.

To the Governor, stating the number of arms &c. sent to militia as per return. 104

<b>COLQUHOAN, THOMAS.</b>	
Admitted a citizen of the United States.....	29
Admitted a citizen of the United States 13th June, 1802.....	331
<b>COLUMBINE, SHIP.</b>	
List of persons examined on board.....	583-5
<b>COMMISSIONERS.</b>	
For supervising Presidential election throughout the State of Virginia.....	123-5
<b>COMMON, HALL.</b>	
Resolution of, as to the guilt of two negroes involved in the intended insurrection, with request for their apprehension .....	138-9
<b>COMMITTEE OF COMMUNICATION.</b>	
Messrs. Barbour and four others, with their report by J. H. Foushee, clerk.....	75 to 87
<b>COMMITTEE TO DIVIDE CITY OF RICHMOND INTO WARDS.</b>	
Report of.....	344-5
<b>COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA.</b>	
To Joseph Harding, granting commission as superintendent quarantine at Peters- burg.....	132
<b>CONNELL, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, acknowledging receipt of 71 stand of arms for 103d Regiment.....	353
<b>CONNELLY, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, recommending Abraham Douglass as superintendent of Virginia penitentiary .....	506
<b>COOK LAZARUS.</b>	
To the Governor, praying for remission of damages assessed against him as secu- rity for sheriff of Southampton.....	309
<b>COOK, MORDECAI.</b>	
To the Governor, asking commissions for officers of 21st Regiment.....	51
To the Governor, forwarding resolutions of citizens of Portsmouth relative to arm- ing militia of Portsmouth, &c.....	521
<b>COOKE, JACOB.</b>	
To the Governor, proposals for manufacture of arms.....	70
Opinion of arms furnished by Swan.....	90
Report of Swan's guns examined, and their condition... ..	101-2
<b>CORBIN, RICHARD.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for company light infantry 9th Regiment of King and Queen county.....	295
<b>CORNICK, JEREMIAH.</b>	
Confession; testimony as to sundry negroes engaged in plot for insurrection; naming them.....	298
<b>COTTON &amp; STEWART.</b>	
Proposals for supplying copies of militia laws for officers.....	194
<b>COUNCIL BOARD.</b>	
Advise that the Light Infantry Company of Captain George W. Smith, of the 19th Regiment, be armed.....	402
Advise that the Treasurer be requested to subscribe, on behalf of the State, to the capital stock of the Bank of Virginia to the amount of three hundred thousand dollars, to be loaned to the State at 4 per cent. per annum.....	403-4
Advise that permission be given to commissioners of the Bank of Virginia to use temporarily all parts of the treasury as can be spared for the work of the Bank..	404
Advise that Dr. John Brokenbrough be appointed commissioner to establish bound- aries of city of Richmond.....	437
Advise the adoption of a new pattern of rifle and bayonet exhibited by superin- tendent of armory.....	438

# INDEX.

688

Advise that Alexander McRae and Wm. Foushee be appointed to count money in Treasury; report of same.....	452
Advise that Creed Taylor be appointed a judge of the General Court to fill vacancy caused by death of Joseph Jones.....	455
Advise as to uniform for Independent Corps of Artificers of Manufactory of Arms	472
Advise appointment of committee of two to visit jail and penitentiary once in two months for inspection of management.....	472
Advise that Major Clarke proceed to complete the foundry, keeping within appropriation.....	473
Advise the character of uniform of the militia of Virginia.....	476-7
Advise that warrant be issued in favor of E. R., Esq., for one hundred and forty dollars, as additional fee in aid as counsel to Attorney-General in case with Bristoe's heirs.....	486
Advise that writ of election be issued for the Bedford congressional district for election of a member to fill place of Christopher Clarke, resigned.....	493
<b>COUPLAND, DAVID.</b>	
Protest against appointment of Benjamin Morris.....	39
<b>COWPER, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, apprehension of the bad influence of negroes imported by refugees from French West India Islands upon the native slaves of Norfolk.....	287
To the Governor, stating reasons for apprehending an insurrection.....	293-4
To the Governor, informing of the conviction of two of the leaders of the intended insurrection, and arrest of two others.....	297
To the Governor, informing of the fairness of trial of Ned and Jeremiah.....	299-300
To the Governor, informs of discontent among citizens of Norfolk at the indulgence of the Executive towards condemned negroes.....	301
To the Governor, expressing the wish of the community that some mitigation of the sentence of Ned, condemned for insurrection, might be had.....	304
<b>COX, CHARLES.</b>	
To the Governor, proposal for painting the penitentiary.....	92
<b>CRAIG, ADAM.</b>	
Certificate of resolution of Common Hall of Richmond, asking the Executive to provide an infirmary for those bringing contagious disease; reply of Governor...	132-3
To Philip N. Nicholas, asking for exemption for his clerks from guard duty.....	174
<b>CRALLE, SAMUEL.</b>	
To the Governor, complaining of court of Northumberland county concerning major's commission.....	69
<b>CROPPER, JOHN, JR.</b>	
Return of arms of 2d Regiment from Accomac, shipped to Richmond.....	139
To the Governor, report of condition of Light Infantry Company, and their arms..	452
To the Governor, soliciting appointment as Commissioner of Wrecks for Accomac county in room of John Teakle.....	512
To the Governor, soliciting arms and ammunition for regiments in Accomac county	581
<b>CRUTCHFIELD, STAPLETON.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for company cavalry.....	440
To the Governor, solicits appointment as ensign in Public Guard.....	501
<b>CURD, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, claiming sheriffalty of Goochland..	118
<b>CUNNINGHAM, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for his company.....	419
<b>CURITON, JAMES.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of death of Wm. R. Curtis leaving no heirs; his property probably escheated.....	319

## D

### DABNEY, WM.

To the Governor, asking compensation for work in distribution of arms.....	220
--	-----

To the Governor, informing him of the expiration of term of service of sundry members of Penitentiary Board.....	295
To the Governor, informing him that term of service of the Inspectors of Penitentiary expired 14th October, and of a vacancy by the death of Major Dunscomb..	328
To the Governor, informing him of two vacancies on Board of Inspectors of Penitentiary by resignation of Messrs. Scott and Hays.....	341
<b>DARBY, NATHANIEL.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of his efforts for the return of arms in hands of men under his command.....	119
To the Governor; return of arms issued to Captain John Eyre.....	120
<b>DARKER THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor, asking if acceptance of service in United States Army disqualified him as agent for State.....	23
<b>DAVIS, WM.</b>	
To the Governor, recommending Major De Klauman as major commandant of arsenals.....	1
To the Governor, informing of a French frigate from Cape Francois full of negroes supposed to be destined for the capes of Virginia.....	318
To the Governor, informing him that he had found in collector's office in Norfolk a number of duty bonds, taken by John King and Josiah Parker, believed not to have been paid.....	340
<b>DAVIS, AUGUSTINE.</b>	
To the Governor, asking privilege of printing for State the Laws of Congress.....	28
To the Governor, offering to furnish Acts General Assembly bound as those by Pleasants & Price.....	381
To the Governor, soliciting office of Public Printer.....	390
<b>DAVIS, THOMAS T.</b>	
To the Governor, asking instruction as to pension for Wm. Shepherd, of Kentucky	74
To the Governor, informing him of Will Shepherd commissioned to draw a pension; political opinion in Kentucky.....	135
<b>DAVIS, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, proposal for manufacturing arms at Morgan Town.....	132
<b>DAVIS, MICAHAH.</b>	
To the Governor, accepting appointment as Inspector of Penitentiary.....	297
Account for roofing public warehouse.....	335
<b>DAVISSON, DANIEL.</b>	
Advised to be appointed major of 11th Regiment.....	30
<b>DAVIDSON, LEONARD.</b>	
Recommended as ensign in 55th Regiment.....	54
<b>DAWLEY, COL. DENNIS.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him that 100 stand of arms issued to P. Anne had been deposited at Kempsville.....	113
<b>DAWSON, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, asking permission as settler for arsenal.....	49
To the Governor, informing him of escape of Mathew Anderson from jail at Dumfries.....	50
<b>DAWSON, B. A.</b>	
To the Governor, solicits appointment of ensign in Public Guard.....	501
<b>DAVENPORT, WILSON.</b>	
To the Governor, asking sufficiency of a peddler's license taken out in Bedford by merchants of Lynchburg to sell in Danville.....	489
<b>DAVID (Slave).</b>	
Testimony of Prosser's Ben against; acquitted.....	149

**DAY, BENJAMIN.**

To the Governor, relating to efforts to suppress gaming..... 428

**DEARBORN, H.**

To the Governor, relative to claim of Virginia for militia services guarding stores against negroes in late insurrections..... 361  
 To the Governor; order from President of United States to employ militia of State of Virginia for preservation of peace in Norfolk harbor..... 445  
 To Joseph Perkins, informing him of visit to Harper's Ferry of Mr. Pettibone for introducing improvements in manufacture of arms, &c..... 472-3  
 To the Governor, forwarding a cavalry pistol manufactured at Harper's Ferry as a sample; concerning swords suitable for cavalry..... 503-4  
 To the Governor; a call for the State's quota of militia to be organized and equipped to march at a moment's warning..... 527  
 To the Governor, respecting pay of militia; also, for tents, camp kettles, &c ..... 566  
 To the Governor, urging encouragement of volunteers as a part of the quota of militia required..... 566-7  
 To the Governor, urging that correct returns of the militia be made to the President and Congress from year to year..... 614-15

**DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.**

To the Governor, announcing death of Mr. Henry Tazewell, Senator of United States ..... 3

**DENEAL, G.**

To the Governor, petitioning for a division of the 60th Regiment of Fairfax county Certificate of resolution of county court declining to aid in distributing resolutions of General Assembly..... 12  
 To the Governor, enclosing an order of court concerning the resolutions of General Assembly..... 14  
 To the Governor, concerning return of pamphlets on resolutions of General Assembly designed for distribution..... 18  
 To the Governor, concerning rule established by Executive about nomination of magistrates ..... 18-19  
 To Samuel Coleman; report of Major Chas. Turner, 106th Regiment, of number and condition of arms..... 21  
 To the Governor, asking for appropriation of fines on 60th Regiment to purchase of colors and musical instruments for 106th Regiment..... 39  
 To the Governor, relating to return of arms loaned to corporation of Alexandria... 40  
 To the Governor, forwarding bill of lading for arms; difficulty of collecting those loaned company commanded by Captain Winterberry..... 129  
 190-1

**DEXTER, SAMUEL.**

To Samuel Coleman; receipt of list of military land warrants issued to officers and soldiers in Virginia line on Continental establishment..... 118

**DICK, ELISHA C.**

To the Governor, concerning observance of quarantine at Alexandria, and certain charges incurred ..... 53  
 To the Governor, stating deaths on Captain Butler's packet from Norfolk at quarantine ground; communication with Baltimore asked to be interdicted..... 139

**DICK (Slave).**

Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection..... 156  
 Testimony of Ben. Woolfolk; paper endorsed "Dick pardoned"..... 156

**DICK (Thilman's).**

Testimony of Ben Woolfolk against..... 166

**DICK, DR. E. C.**

To the Governor; report of health of Alexandria; danger from free negroes and abolition societies and their schools to people of Southern States..... 178

**DIRECTORS OF HOSPITAL.**

Application for warrant from Auditor Public Accounts for \$1,600 for use of hospital 291  
 To the Governor, informing him of vacancy in Court of Directors by death of Geo. Carter; ask for warrant for \$1,600..... 322

## DIXON, HENRY ST. JOHN.

- Deposition concerning the testimony of sundry parties as to the contest between Mr. Robert Preston and Col. Robert Campbell for the colonelcy of the 105th Regiment..... 43
- To the Governor, requesting that the Governor of Tennessee be informed of their appointment to enter into stipulations for opening the navigation of the River Holstein..... 411
- To Samuel Coleman, soliciting arms for troop of Captain Jacob Baker, of the 105th Regiment..... 453
- To the Governor, soliciting arms for Captain Baker's troop, Washington county..... 466

## DIXON, J.

- To the Governor, soliciting office of Public Printer..... 390

## DRUMMOND, W.

- Certificate of affidavit of William Randall of witnessing the delivery of three Asiatics as negroes by Nathan Walker to Newell Walton in Alexandria..... 316

## DUDLEY, W.

- To the Governor, reporting movement of the Bellona and Leopard; suggesting the relief of two companies of the 115th Regiment; return of troops on duty at Hampton..... 538-9
- To the Governor, relating to the effort of British officer of the ship Triumph to transmit dispatches by a United States pilot boat to British Consul at Norfolk... 545-6
- To the Governor, informing him of discharge of militia at Hampton; enclosing letters from sundry parties; apprehension of collision between British sailors and people of Hampton..... 564
- To the Governor, respecting supplying the Columbine with provisions..... 573-4

## DOUGLASS, ABRAHAM.

- To the Governor, forwarding recommendation from inspectors of prison in Philadelphia for superintendent penitentiary..... 506
- To the Governor, accepting appointment as keeper of penitentiary; sundry printed rules of Philadelphia prison, with statement of rations, &c..... 509
- Official bond as keeper of penitentiary is lodged..... 511
- To the Governor, informing him of the efficient service of Hartwell Heath, a prisoner, at recent fire at penitentiary..... 512

## DOUGLAS, J. E.

- To the Mayor of Norfolk, threatening to stop all vessels from passing in or out of Chesapeake Bay unless communication with British Consul at Norfolk is restored, &c.; enclosing letters to Consul..... 525-6

## DUNLOP, JOHN.

- Admitted a citizen of United States, November 30th, 1802..... 330-1

## DUNLOP, JAMES, JR.

- Admitted a citizen of the United States..... 29

## DUNLOP, JAMES.

- Admitted a citizen of the United States 13th June, 1802..... 331

## DISMAL SWAMP CANAL.

- Directors, order to draw on Treasurer for one thousand dollars of State's quota..... 315

## DUNLEVY, GEORGE.

- To the Governor, informing him that John Stephenson holds office of justice of peace while postmaster at Wood Courthouse..... 480

## DUVAL, WM.

- Certificate of oath of office administered to James Monroe..... 62-3
- To the Governor: report of Board of Inspectors of penitentiary on keeper's conduct, &c..... 342

## DUVAL, GABRIEL.

- Commissioner appointed by State of Maryland to fix boundary line with Virginia..... 262



# INDEX.

637

<b>DUVAL, BENJAMIN.</b>	
To the Governor, urging necessity for patrol in Richmond.....	173
<b>DYER, ZEB., C. P. C.</b>	
Certificate of recommendation of Jacob Hull as captain of a cavalry in 46th Regiment in Pendleton county; also of Adam Conrod and Henry Hull as lieutenants in same.....	28
<b>DYSART, JAMES.</b>	
Certificate as to conduct of Col. Robert Campbell on the expedition to South Carolina in 1780 at the battle of King's Mountain.....	45

## E

<b>EDDINS, SAMUEL C.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting pardon of Wm. Clarke, soldier, convicted of felony.....	16
<b>EDWARDS, RIC.</b>	
To the Governor, stating that arms allotted for 37th Regiment have not been delivered; soliciting arms for troop commanded by Captain Wm. Ball.....	457
<b>ELLCOTT, ANDREW.</b>	
To the Governor, relative to boundary line between Virginia and North Carolina; Walker and Henderson's line thought erroneous.....	322
<b>ELSEY, WM.</b>	
Elector President and Vice-President United States.....	75
<b>EPPE, ARCHIBALD.</b>	
To the Governor; represents alarm of people at City Point lest fever be introduced from Norfolk; asks for appointment of Mr. Wilcox as quarantine officer.....	137
<b>EUSTACE, HANCOCK.</b>	
Official bond as collector of rents on Bristoe estate lodged.....	453
To the Governor, informing him of collection of tobacco from tenants on Bristoe tract, and sale of same.....	486
To the Governor, informing him that the commission of 5 per cent. on collections from Bristoe estate is insufficient.....	490
To the Governor, concerning his difficulty in settling with the executor of Thomas Lee, agent for Bristoe estate.....	508
<b>EVANS, J.</b>	
To the Governor, petition for division of militia of Monongalia county, and for full troop of cavalry.....	5
<b>EVANS, LEWIS.</b>	
Recommended as lieutenant in 55th Regiment.....	54
<b>EWING, GEORGE W.</b>	
To collector of Port Norfolk, informing him of shipment of Americans discharged from British Navy to Norfolk, in bad health.....	349
<b>EXECUTIVE OF VIRGINIA.</b>	
Requested to state the number of arms distributed from arsenal sent to each place..	1
Desired information from the clerk of Fairfax what disposition has been made of the resolutions of the General Assembly by the court.....	19

## F

<b>FAUCETT, JOSEPH.</b>	
To the Governor; solicits appointment as agent for collecting arrears of taxes from sheriffs.....	502
<b>FAULKNER, JAMES.</b>	
To the Governor, asking for supply of yellow-mounted swords for his company, expecting to get from United States Government two field pieces from Harper's Ferry.....	609-10
<b>FAIRFAX COUNTY.</b>	
Advice of Board concerning officers of the 60th Regiment.....	66

<b>FALLIN, JOHN H.</b>	
Certificate of election of Henry Lee as member House of Representatives United States .....	22
<b>FEDERAL ELECTORS.</b>	
To vote for President and Vice-President 1807, for 4th March, 1808.....	616
<b>FELLS, JOHN (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Caroline court for insurrection; testimony of Ben Woolfolk and Edmund.....	167
<b>FENTON &amp; COCHRAN.</b>	
Bill for manufacturing three bells for Capitol, penitentiary, and manufactory of arms lodged.....	276
<b>FINGH, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, asking for copy of Revised Laws and seal of office.....	376
<b>FISHER, D., AND OTHERS.</b>	
Petition concerning two negroes named Isaac, condemned by Southampton county court for murder, believed to be free men.....	57
<b>FISHER, ROBERT H., AND OTHERS.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for an infantry and cavalry company in Nansemond county.....	563
<b>FITZGERALD, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for company of cavalry raised in Nottoway county ..	447, 492
<b>FLETCHER, JAMES.</b>	
To B. Edwards or N. Friend, informing of a projected insurrection.....	263
<b>FLETCHER, MR.</b>	
Desires that the Board should sell the negroes purchased by him to some other party.....	319
<b>FRANK (Negro).</b>	
Testimony of John and Ben against; condemned for insurrection.....	145-6
Condemned in Halifax court for insurrection; testimony of Abram.....	294
<b>FRONIN, ANDREW.</b>	
Petition of, and other citizens of Richmond, for pardon of Janet Paul, convicted of robbery .....	16
<b>FOUSHEE, WM.</b>	
Elected member Privy Council in room of John Allen, deceased.....	62
Qualified as member Privy Council.....	62
To the Governor; report on navigation of James river; extent and prospects.....	222-4
To the Governor, soliciting appointment as surgeon at penitentiary.....	278
To the Governor, asking as to accommodation made for sailors arriving with malignant disease .....	317
To the Governor; report of progress of improvement in navigation by James River Company .....	333
To the Governor; recommends that a vessel at Rocketts be hired for Marine Hospital.....	136
Report on condition of Treasurer's office.....	418
To the Governor; report on escape of prisoners from penitentiary, and measures to prevent same; reward due to negro David and others for aid in recapture.....	469-70
To the Governor, resigning place as member of Council of State.....	480
<b>FORT, J.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for his troop.....	412
<b>FOWLER, JOHN.</b>	
To Samuel Coleman; receipt for a sword, belt, &c., for John Jouett, voted him by the Legislature of Virginia.....	427

# INDEX.

639

<b>FOX, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor; proposal to furnish cartridge-boxes.....	89
<b>FOXALL, HENRY.</b>	
To John Clarke, stating terms for superintending introduction of his improvements into Virginia foundry.....	248
To John Clarke; demands \$500 for giving details for constructing his improvement in armory; advises Clarke to come to Georgetown to see works.....	302
<b>FULCHER, WM.</b>	
To the Governor; proposal to purchase negroes confined in penitentiary or sell them on commission.....	311
<b>FULKERSON, P.</b>	
To the Governor, recommending Benjamin Robinson as collector of tax 1795 in Russell county.....	193
<b>G</b>	
<b>GABRIEL (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	164
Testimony of Prosser's Ben, Price's John, Ben Woolfolk against.....	164-5
<b>GARRIEL, JACK (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Caroline court for insurrection; testimony of Ben Woolfolk and Primus.....	166-7
<b>GAMBLE, ROBERT.</b>	
To the Governor, testifying to the soldierly character of Colonel Cropper during the Revolutionary war.....	512
To the Governor, informing him of the organization of the company of "Silver Greys" for guarding city of Richmond; soliciting arms, &c., for same; names of those enrolled.....	547-8
<b>GAMBILL, H. J.</b>	
To the Governor, requesting arms for Rockingham company be sent by his messenger.....	109
To the Governor, informing him of a tract of land in Rockingham considered escheatable.....	395
To the Governor, asking to be informed as to employing James Allen to assist attorney in inquest on land of Thomas Jackson, deceased.....	444 5
<b>GALE, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing for approval, diploma as surveyor of Spotsylvania county, granted by president and professors of William and Mary College.....	437
<b>GARLAND, CLIFTON.</b>	
To Samuel Coleman; return of troop of Albemarle attached to 47th Regiment.....	453
<b>GARNETT, JOHN M.</b>	
To the Governor, recommending John Tayloe as colonel of cavalry in lieu of Larkin Smith.....	614
<b>GARRANT, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, praying remission of damages on account of revenue for 1796-97	54
<b>GARRAUD, JAMES.</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing letter from Kentucky commissioners relative to boundary line.....	29
To the Governor, enclosing copy of act of General Assembly on boundary line.....	193
To the Governor, concerning seizure and sale of free negro boy, Jack Cox.....	34
<b>GEDDLY, WM. W.</b>	
To the Governor, praying for remission of fines for not attending muster of 39th Regiment.....	26
<b>GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.</b>	
Resolution respecting the presentation of a sword to Lieutenant Presley N. O'Bannon by Virginia, for his gallant services in the war between United States and Tripoli.....	462

GEORGE, REUBEN.	
Account for lumber furnished for penitentiary certified by Thomas Callis.....	10-11
GEORGE (Negro).	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	152
Testimony of Ben Woolfolk and Price's John.....	152-3
GHOISTON, THOMAS, JR.	
To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for troop of Brunswick county.....	436
To the Governor, solicits arms for the Brunswick company.....	444
GILBERT.	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	153
Testimony of Prosser's Ben and Price's John.....	153
GIBSON, ALEXANDER.	
To the Governor, relating to two Chickasaw Indians sent.....	63
GIBSON, WM.	
To the Governor; return of light infantry company; recommending officers for new company of cavalry.....	493
GILES, WM. B.	
Elector of President and Vice-President United States.....	75
To the Governor, accepting appointment as Senator of United States.....	413
To the Governor, concerning claims of Virginia against Government of United States; the duration of the term of United States Senators uncertain.....	425-6
To the Governor, concerning obtaining compensation from the United States Government for Samuel Brooks.....	433-4
To the Governor, expressing obligations to Legislature for appointment as Senator of United States.....	434
GILES, WILLIAM.	
To the Governor; account for loss in detention of bricklayers in work on armory..	107
Contractor for brick work at armory asks for an advance of \$600.....	120
GILMAN, JOHN TAYLOR.	
To the Governor, concerning resolutions of Virginia Legislature to be laid before Legislature of New Hampshire.....	2-3
GLASGOW (Negro man).	
Condemned in court of Hanover for insurrection; testimony of James; court recommended Glasgow for transportation..	299
GRAY, FRANCIS.	
To the Governor, soliciting an appointment as a cavalry officer.....	586
GREGORY, WM.	
Elected member House of Delegates from King William.....	227
GREGORY, ROGER.	
To the Governor, forwarding return of volunteer company of the 98th Regiment militia of Mecklenburg.....	496
GREEN, AUGUSTINE.	
Certificate that Robert Ware Peacock, attorney at law, has attended upon inquisition of escheat against estate of Edmund Harrel.....	130
GREEN, ALEXANDER.	
To the Governor, asking for assistant counsel in the case of Edmund Harrel.....	187-8
GREEN, BERRYMAN.	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for Captain Sanford's troop of Halifax, and for a company of the 69th Regiment omitted by Col. Douglas.....	380
To the Governor; receipt of decision of Council in favor of Charles F. Wall as Col. Commandant of 69th Regiment.....	481
To the Governor, resigning office of Lieutenant-Colonel of 69th Regiment, with reasons ..	501

# INDEX.

641

## GREEN, G.

- To Wm. Prentiss or James Druell, informing of an insurrection to occur on the following Thursday night ..... 264
- To the Governor, informing him that negro Lewis had been carried to penitentiary for safe keeping; a white man, suspected of aiding negroes, arrested..... 299
- To the Governor, tendering the services of a company of volunteers from Mecklenburg county..... 558-9
- To the Governor, tendering services of a light infantry company of Mecklenburg county..... 600

## GREENHOW, JAMES.

- To the Governor, asking compensation to nurse of sick guard at barracks..... 286
- To the Governor, asking for sixteen watch coats for guard while on duty..... 342
- To the Governor, advising more healthy quarters for Public Guard..... 393

## GREENHOW, ROBERT.

- To the Governor, informing him of a number of cannon-balls in the magazine yard in Williamsburg ..... 439

## GREENUP, CHRISTOPHER.

- To the Governor, enclosing affidavit and certificates concerning toll-gate near Cumberland Gap..... 493-4
- To the Governor, enclosing address respecting toll-gate in gap of Cumberland mountain..... 498
- To the Governor, enclosing copy of resolutions of citizens of Frankfort expressive of their abhorrence of the conduct of the British on the flag of the United States 557

## GREER, MOSES.

- To the Governor, soliciting appointment as commissioner for establishing western boundary line between Maryland and Virginia..... 277

## GOOD, FRANK (Negro).

- To Roling Pointer (Powhatan), urging him to insurrection..... 274

## GOODRICH, JOHN.

- Elected Senator for district of Surry and Isle of Wight..... 354

## GOKE, C.

- To Thomas Jefferson, expressing sentiments on the probability of the directors of the Sierra Leone Company consenting to receive negroes from the United States into their Colony..... 326-7

## GOOSELEY, GEORGE.

- To the Governor, proposing to convey the slaves sentenced to transportation beyond the limits of the United States, upon terms indicated..... 305-6
- To the Governor, offering to purchase the condemned slaves at prices and on terms stated ..... 306
- To the Governor, informing him that the Spanish West Indies are shut against the admission of slaves from all countries save Africa; asks to be released from his engagement..... 309

## GRAMMAR, J.

- To Augustine Davis, informing him of rumors of insurrection about Petersburg; advising watchfulness ..... 128

## GRANTHAM, JOHN.

- Recommended as lieutenant in 55th Regiment..... 54

## GRIFFIN, THOMAS.

- Security on Treasurer's bond.. ..... 67

## GRIFFIN, CYRUS.

- Received of electors of President and Vice-President of the United States a paper containing return of votes..... 427

## GRYMES, PHILIP.

- Qualified as member of Privy Council May 30th, 1803..... 359
- To the Governor, resigning seat as member of Council on account of feeble health 456

**GUERRANT, PETER.**

- To the Governor, asking a payment of \$1,500 for timber for the public warehouse in Richmond ..... 311  
 To the Governor, praying for dismissal of suit against him for failure to fulfil contract for building public warehouse ..... 414  
 To the Governor, asking advance of \$1,000 for timber of public warehouse and framing same ..... 321  
 Proposal to furnish lumber for public warehouse for \$1,000 ..... 285

**GUERRANT, WM.**

- To the Governor, accepting appointment as agent of State for renting public land at Buckingham Furnace ..... 497

**GUERRANT, GENERAL JOHN.**

- To the Governor; certificate of examination of 1,093 muskets made by Major John Tinsley ..... 217  
 Report on number of clerks needed in the Land Office ..... 225-6

**GUARRANTY, JOHN.**

- To the Governor; certifies to delivery of 526 cartridge-boxes by Capt. John Tinsley 12

**H****HALTON, THOMAS.**

- To the Governor; proposal for furnishing cartridge-boxes ..... 89

**HALLAM, ED.**

- To John Heath, soliciting arms for his company ..... 472

**HANOVER COUNTY.**

- Petition of citizens for pardon of two negroes condemned for insurrection ..... 302

**HANSFORD, THEODOSIUS.**

- To the Governor, relating to inquisition upon tract of land in King George county 36

**HARDING, JOSEPH.**

- To the Governor, declining appointment of superintendent quarantine for Petersburg ..... 134

**HARDY, T. M.**

- To the Governor, informing him of arrival of British ship Columbine with dispatches and letters ..... 564  
 To Brigadier-General Mathews, acknowledging return of officers and seamen tendering thanks; suggesting a mode of communication ..... 573  
 To Brigadier-General Mathews, delivering Dougal McDougal, an American citizen, claiming the right of communication with the British Consul at Norfolk ..... 580

**HARE, JOSEPH.**

- To the Governor, soliciting appointment as ensign of Public Guard, in place of Ensign Crouch ..... 501

**HARPER, WM.**

- To the Governor; solicits appointment as lieutenant in Public Guard ..... 509

**HARRIS, E.**

- Receipt for arms, &c., to 102d Regiment ..... 44

**HARRISON, COLIN.**

- Security on Treasurer's bond ..... 67

**HARRISON, CARTER B.**

- Elector President and Vice-President United States ..... 75

**HARRISON, BENJAMIN.**

- To the Governor, soliciting sixty stand of arms for a company in 58th Regiment... 108

**HARRISON, WM. B.**

- To the Governor, complaining that his claim to command of the 57th Regiment Militia, Loudoun, has been disregarded ..... 549

# INDEX.

643

<b>HARVEY, LEWIS.</b> Qualified as member of Privy Council December 6th, 1806.....	498
<b>HARVIE &amp; WINSTON.</b> To the Governor, asking for \$500 advance to buy oyster-shells for lime for use of penitentiary building.....	113
<b>HAY, WM.</b> To the Governor, relating to plans and drawings of Capitol and public prison sent from Paris by Mr. Jefferson.....	10
<b>HAY, GEORGE.</b> To the Governor, recommending Wm. Darell as superintendent of quarantine at Petersburg .....	133
Qualified as member of Council.....	340
<b>HAYMOND, JOHN.</b> Advised to be appointed lieutenant-colonel commandant of 11th Regiment.....	30
To the Governor, soliciting arms for troop of cavalry in 11th Regiment.....	377
<b>HEATH, JOHN.</b> Qualified as Privy Councillor by Joseph Selden.....	381
To the Governor, opposing appointment of Wm. Whitaker as clerk of penitentiary by Board as an interference with the prerogative of the keeper.....	418
To Major Wm. Keik, stating objections to Major Taylor's proposal for raising a regiment of cavalry in Northern Neck.....	607
<b>HEISKEL, JOHN.</b> To the Governor, representing that a field-piece is lying at the Point Alexandria; asking that said gun be assigned to the artillery company to which he is attached .....	479
<b>HERBERT, WM.</b> To the Governor, forwarding statement of condition of Bank of Alexandria.....	2
<b>HENDERSON, JAMES.</b> Indicted by grand jury for being absent from Williamsburg on election of members of General Assembly and Congress.....	205
<b>HENDERSON, ALEXANDER.</b> To the Governor, enclosing resolutions of town meeting of Dumfries, asking for appointment of George Williams superintendent quarantine.....	368
<b>HENNING, WM. WALLER.</b> Qualified as member of Privy Council 2d January, 1806.....	463
<b>HENRIC, DANIEL.</b> Commissioned as surveyor of Wood county by president and professors of William and Mary College.....	28
<b>HENRICO COUNTY.</b> List of slaves condemned in, and valuation.....	174
<b>HENRY, JAMES.</b> Allotted judge in districts of Prince Edward Courthouse, New London, Washington Courthouse, and Sweet Springs, in Botetourt county.....	56
<b>HETH, W.</b> To the Governor, asking that the meeting of the Cincinnati be postponed for one week .....	273
<b>HICKMAN, WM.</b> Security on Treasurer's bond.....	67
<b>HIGINBOTHAM, THOMAS AND JOHN.</b> To the Governor, informing him that Francis and Alexander Teubeaf had gone to Europe; left James Campbell, of Petersburg, their agent.....	380

<b>HOIST, HENRY.</b>	
To the Governor, asking instructions as to judgment against Aitcheson in court of Norfolk.....	49
<b>HOLMES, DAVID.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning the manner of election of General Robert Porterfield to House of Representatives of United States.....	24
<b>HOLMES, HUGH.</b>	
To the Governor, recommending the raising of a new troop of cavalry and the officers for same.....	25
Elector President and Vice-President United States.....	75
To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for Captain Stephenson's company of light infantry of Jefferson county.....	436
<b>HOME &amp; WHEELER.</b>	
To the Governor; proposal for manufacturing arms in Culpeper.....	49
<b>HOOMES, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor; asks to be reimbursed expense of guard at Caroline jail over negroes committed for insurrection.....	169
<b>HOSPITAL IN WILLIAMSBURG.</b>	
Report of Court of Directors to October 1st, 1802, and asking for warrant for \$2,000	337
<b>HOUSE OF DELEGATES.</b>	
Resolution requesting Executive to lay the Journal of Proceedings before them....	189
Resolution for Governor to correspond with the President of the United States as to purchasing lands outside of State, &c.....	195
Resolution that the Executive cause to be removed to the armory all ordnance and military stores belonging to the State (not including that in service of United States or the State), and render the same fit for service.....	468
<b>HUBERT, WM.</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing statement of balance of Bank of Alexandria.....	290
<b>HUNGERFORD, JOHN.</b>	
Elected member State Senate from Stafford district.....	227
<b>HUNGERFORD, JOHN P.</b>	
To the Governor; receipt for the quota of arms due the 111th Regiment, under act of assembly .....	295
To the Governor, recommending Bankhead and Thompson for commissions to raise a company of light infantry in 111th Regiment in Westmoreland militia....	325
To the Governor, soliciting arms for 111th Regiment militia.....	491
To the Governor, acknowledging order to hold 500 men in readiness to march at a moment's warning .....	540-1
To the Governor, informing that his orders for 500 men prepared to march at a moment's warning, were complied with; officers and men nearly all ready.....	557
<b>HUNT, THOMAS.</b>	
Recommended by court of Sussex as cornet.....	59
<b>HUNTER, DAVID.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for 67th Regiment.....	358
<b>HUNTER, JOHN, AND OTHERS.</b>	
Memorial concerning appointment of additional magistrates.....	47-8
<b>HUNTER, TALIAFERRO.</b>	
To John Heath, soliciting arms for company of artillery.....	581
<b>HUNTON, THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor, suggesting that Major John T. Woodford and he be allowed to exchange commands .....	471
<b>HUSTINGS COURT OF RICHMOND.</b>	
Billy (negro) condemned in for breaking into Rocketts warehouse.....	189



**HYLTON, DANIEL L.**

Qualified as clerk of Council.....	19
Certificate of administration: oath of office & Wm. Moreley, treasurer of Common-wealth.....	343
To the Council concerning compensation of expressmen who brought returns from distant counties.....	424-5

**I**

**ISAAC, Negro.**

Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection, September 11th.....	140
Testimony of Francis, his.....	170
Condemned in court of Brunswick for insurrection: testimony of Jeffrey, Adam, George, and Hanson.....	27-30

**INSPECTOR OF PENITENTIARY.**

Resigning their commissions: their successors appointed.....	373
--	-----

**IRWIN, JOHN**

To the Governor acknowledging receipt of act of Virginia establishing the boundary line between Virginia and Tennessee, forwarding act of Tennessee on same subject.....	411
--	-----

**ISHAM, Negro.**

Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	148
Petition for pardon signed by eight persons.....	148
Testimony of Mrs. Frank, Naty, Ellis, and Burton.....	149-50

**J**

**JACKSON, LUKI**

Certificate of election of Henry Lee, member House of Representatives of United States.....	12
---	----

**JACKSON, G.**

To the Governor, sending his approval of the Virginia resolutions.....	10
--	----

**JACKSON, JOSEPH**

To the Governor, asking for increase of salary.....	297-8
---	-------

**JACKSON, W.**

To the president of Virginia State Society of the Cincinnati, notifying him that the triennial meeting is to be held in Washington, on May 22d, 1842.....	290
---	-----

**JACOB, ROBERT**

To the Governor, setting forth the exposed situation of the people of Northampton, in pilage, soliciting \$300 fund of arms for his regiment, depredations on Smith's Island.....	547
---	-----

**JACOB, Negro.**

Testimony of Mr. Woolfolk, endorser "paroled".....	157
--	-----

**JAMES, Negro.**

Testimony of Mr. Woolfolk, endorser, reprieved to 20 day of November next.....	157
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	157

**JEFFERSON, THOMAS**

To the Governor announcing the death of Henry Taxwell, Senator of United States.....	4
To the Governor concerning the effort, desired by resolution of the General Assembly to secure a place where negroes sentenced to transportation may be sent.....	294-5
To the Governor relative to balance due Artur, Bondur, on Washington statue.....	290-91
To the Governor relative to the effort, designed to provide a place to which transported negroes might be sent.....	227-8
To the Governor, advising the vigorous exertions of the State government to carry into effect the militia system adopted by the National Legislature, asks for a return of militia arms and accoutrements of the State, &c.....	345
To the Governor, concerning combination for counterfeiting notes of branch banks of the United States.....	328

To the Governor, concerning claims of reimbursement growing out of prosecution of Logwood.....	422
To the Governor, concerning his desire to provide an asylum for the free negroes in some foreign land.....	433
Proclamation recognizing the Siem Oster Sub-Commissary of commercial relations of the Emperor of the French for port of Norfolk.....	438
To the Governor; return of a fugitive from justice to the civil authorities at Norfolk	459
A proclamation.....	522-4
To the Governor; considers that the sealed letter from British Consul at New York to commander of Bellona should be returned.....	586
To the Governor, informing of receipt from Europe of models of swords, two of which have been selected to send to the manufactory of Virginia, &c.; concerning pay of Virginia militia.....	613-14
To Captain Maurice C. Miller and officers and privates of Cumberland Riflemen; thanks for tender of service.....	615
<b>JEREMIAH.</b>	
Condemned in court of Norfolk borough for insurrection; testimony of Will.....	297
<b>JETT, PETER.</b>	
Certificate of election of Henry Lee, member of House of Representatives of the United States.....	22
<b>JOE (Slave).</b>	
Condemned in court of Nottoway for insurrection; testimony of Hampton, Ned, Willis Pillar, and John Royal.....	272-3
<b>JOHN, WM.</b>	
To the Governor, giving his opinion as to salability of arms in Monongalia county	372
<b>JOHN (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection, September 11th.....	140
<b>JOHNSTON, CHARLES.</b>	
To the Governor, consenting to accept the terms offered by the Board for Swan's arms.....	58
To the Governor, enclosing letter from Swan about arms.....	106
To the Governor; report of state of accounts of the keeper of the penitentiary....	347
To the Governor, proposing to unite with a volunteer company to be denominated the "Staunton Buckskin Riflemen"; soliciting rifles for arms .....	562
<b>JOHNS, WM.</b>	
To the Governor, respecting number and condition of arms in Monongalia county, and probable expenses of repairing same.....	364
<b>JONES, BATHURST.</b>	
To Samuel Coleman, informing him concerning situation of ordnance and military stores.....	482-3
<b>JONES, JOSEPH.</b>	
Allotted judge in districts of Staunton, Charlottesville, Fredericksburg, and Dumfries .....	56
To the Governor; report on progress of improvement of navigation of Appomattox river.....	224-5
<b>JONES, RICHARD.</b>	
To Wm. Prentis, informing him of a contemplated insurrection on the following Thursday night.....	264-5
<b>JONES, WALTER.</b>	
To the Governor, claiming his right to sheriffalty of Northumberland county.....	45
Elector President and Vice-President United States.....	75
To the Governor, soliciting office of high sheriff.....	129
To the Governor, recommending Mr. Taylor for command of regiment of dragoons in room of Larkin Smith, resigned.....	612
<b>JONES, WILL.</b>	
Received reprieve from Governor for slaves confined in Caroline jail.....	204

<b>JONES, MAJOR CATESBY.</b>	
Soliciting arms for 37th Regiment.....	69
<b>JONES, GENERAL JOSEPH.</b>	
Elector of President and Vice-President.....	75
<b>JORDAN, M. H.</b>	
To the Governor, complaining of action of the Governor and Council in appointing a young ensign to command battalion; resigning commission.....	507-8
<b>JONES, MERIWETHER.</b>	
To the Governor, petitioning for pardon of wife of Peter Paul on account of his good character.....	16
To the Governor, inquiring as to the number of Acts of Assembly he should furnish	21
To the Governor, forwarding account for printing laws of Congress.....	63
To the Governor, asking an advance for buying paper for report .....	88
To the Governor, concerning the imprisonment of Callender.....	121
Elected Public Printer.....	190, 225
To the Governor, asking for an advance of \$1,000 for printing laws of Commonwealth .....	281
To the Governor, offering to furnish copies of revised Code, same quality as by Pleasants & Price, for \$4 per copy.....	382
To the Governor, resigning office of Public Printer.....	391
<b>JUPITER (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	148
Testimony of Prosser's Ben.....	148
<b>K</b>	
<b>KEAN, THOMAS M.</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing copy of act of Legislature of Pennsylvania on improving navigation of Ohio river.....	438-9
To the Governor, enclosing resolutions of Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania approving amendment to Constitution of United States.....	439
<b>KEITH, JAMES.</b>	
To the Governor; report of work done by Potomac company.....	218
To the Governor; report on progress of navigation of Potomac river.....	335-7
To the Governor; petition for letters patent under act of Assembly of 1801.....	338
<b>KELLO, SAMUEL.</b>	
Certificate of condemnation of negro Sam for murder.....	51-2
Transmitting copies of record of Southampton court in case of condemned slaves..	70
To the Governor, concerning the action of Southampton court as to negro prisoners condemned for murder.....	96
<b>KELSICK, RICHARD.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for company raised in Portsmouth.....	489
<b>KEEN, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, relating to surrender of negro slave in jail of Berkeley county, escaped from Montgomery county, Md.....	440
<b>KENNON, RICHARD,</b>	
To the Governor, asking that arms for 22d Regiment and the one in Lunenburg county be sent to James Scott & Co. in Manchester.....	197
<b>KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY.</b>	
Address concerning toll-gate on road leading from Mockinson Gap to Cumberland Gap.....	499
<b>KENTUCKY.</b>	
Resolutions of citizens of Franklin concerning the outrages committed by British subjects on Americans.....	551-3
<b>KERR, CAPTAIN.</b>	
Soliciting arms.....	34

<b>KERR, JOHN SHEPHERD</b> (Major 99th Regiment). To the Governor, forwarding boxes of arms, &c., heretofore distributed to 99th Regiment.....	136
<b>KINCANNON, FRANCIS.</b> Deposition concerning Col. Arthur Campbell's expedition against Cherokee Indians .....	42
<b>KING (Negro).</b> Testimony of Ben Woolfolk, Mrs. Mary Martin, Goodall's man, and Mr. Nicholas..	161-2
Condemned in court of Oyer and Terminer in city of Richmond, 25th day of September for insurrection.....	163
<b>KING, MILES.</b> To the Governor, informing him of collecting arms issued for Elizabeth City county, and their disposition .....	112
To the Governor, promising return of arms and a twelve-pounder cannon; danger of contagious disease from Norfolk.....	133
To the Governor, soliciting appointment of superintendent quarantine for Norfolk; recommending Col. W. Westwood for superintendent quarantine at Hampton...	451
To the Governor, forwarding resignation as lieutenant in 54th Regiment, borough Norfolk.....	511
<b>KING, SACKVILLE.</b> To the Governor, soliciting office of sheriff of Campbell.....	490
<b>KOONTZ, JOHN.</b> To the Governor, advising the appointment of field officers to the Rockingham Regiment.....	45-6
To the Governor, informing him of the manner of election of magistrates in Rockingham.....	121-2
<b>L</b>	
<b>LADDIS.</b> Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	150
Testimony of Prosser's Ben and Price's John against.....	170-1
<b>LAIDLEY, JAMES G.</b> To the Governor; report on road between State road and Wood Courthouse.....	380
<b>LAMBERT, DAVID.</b> To the Governor, informing him that he has the pistols with which George Prosser killed himself; asking what disposition to make of them.....	317
<b>LAMBERT, WM.</b> To the Governor, offering to present the State with frames containing construction of total eclipse of moon and sun.....	114-15
To the Governor, acknowledging thanks of Council for a present sent them.....	117
To the Governor, informing of an organization of the "Junior Volunteers"; solicits arms and accoutrements.....	589-90
<b>LANHAM, E.</b> To the Governor, informing him of capture of George Fridley in Ohio and held for requisition.....	340
To the Governor, concerning law passed by Congress for locating military lands, and for establishing line run by I. Ludlow; damage to soldiers by said line; offering to run a different line, &c.....	454-5
<b>LATIMER, JAMES.</b> To the Governor; undertakes care of State's land at Old Point.....	91
<b>LATROBE, B. H.</b> To the Governor, recommending William Callis superintendent of penitentiary works, &c .....	6-7
<b>LAURIE, ROBERT.</b> To Major Thomas Newton, informing him that Wm. Mears, an American seaman, was discharged at Halifax; also, that when satisfactory proof of American citizenship was produced he would be discharged.....	596

# INDEX.

649

To Major Newton, promising to release Richard Pearce, an American on board the Triumph, but denying the citizenship of several others.....	596
To the Governor, discussing various points in controversy.....	602-4
<b>LEE, HENRY.</b>	
Elected member of House of Representatives of United States.....	22
To the Governor, stating belief that sufficient volunteers can be found to fill the force required, &c.....	563
To the Governor, asking if militia of Gloucester and Mathews shall be exempt from second draft.....	574
To the Governor, tendering services of Brigadier White as a general officer from his division.....	581
To the Governor, expressing hopes of lower counties furnishing the levy by volunteers; also, opinion of best mode of guarding the ports; enlisting free negroes...	587-9
To the Governor, informing him that various amendments in the militia system are indispensable; also concerning his use of his aides for express purposes.....	610
To the Governor, concerning his employment of his aides for express messengers, and their compensation.....	611-12
To the Governor, commending Captain John Taylor.....	615
<b>LEE, GEORGE W.</b>	
Certificate of recommendation of Washington V. Dunn as notary public at Tappahannock.....	203
<b>LEE, RICHARD E.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning appointment of commissioners in Princess Anne; recommending three.....	130
To the Governor; informs of Gabriel's capture; that Charles Read, witness against Dr. Read, has not been summoned.....	154
To the Governor, urging the necessity for a supply of arms to the militia of his section.....	525
To J. E. Douglass (commander British squadron); a general reply to Douglass' letter of July 3d, 1807.....	526-7
To Brigadier-General Mathews, relating account of visit to Commodore Douglass as bearer of dispatches; naming ships of squadron.....	542-3
<b>LEE, THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of testimony concerning payment by the British Government to Bristoe's heirs for estate confiscated; advising that information be gotten from London about it.....	26
To John Minor, relating to commissioners appointed by British Government to ascertain value of lands confiscated, &c.....	61
Ordered to account for arrears of collection of Bristoe's estate.....	467
<b>LEFTWICH, JOEL.</b>	
To the Governor, respecting the call of the United States for 600 infantry, 71 cavalry officers, and 35 artillery from 12th Brigade; concerning difficulty of arming this force, &c.....	574
<b>LEWIS (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection, October 1st, 1800.....	157
<b>LEWIS, AMBROSE.</b>	
Certificates of Dr. Wellford and four others as to being disabled by wounds received in army, and entitled to increase of pension.....	498
To the Governor, asking aid to obtain leave of general government to raise regiment of volunteers in event of war with Great Britain.....	501
To the Governor, soliciting appointment to command a regiment in event of war..	558
<b>LEWIS, JOHN.</b>	
To Samuel Coleman; report of condition and number of arms with company of artillery, 4th Regiment.....	48
<b>LEWIS, HOWELL.</b>	
To the Governor, resigning office in 6th Regiment Artillery; recommending Littlebury Weaver.....	56

**LEWIS, MERIWETHER.**

Report on the latitude of the line denominated "Walker's Line," dividing the States of Virginia and North Carolina ..... 505-6

**LEWIS, ROBERT.**

To the Governor; reports strength of his military company to be seventy-five, and needing all kind of arms and accoutrements ..... 348

**LEWIS, W. J.**

To the Governor, returning commission as commissioner of elections of Buckingham; recommending Robert Mosely, Jr. .... 179  
To the Governor, soliciting commissions for officers of a regiment volunteer infantry ..... 598

**LEYBURN, J.**

To the Governor, soliciting arms and accoutrements for company of artilleryists in Rockbridge ..... 23

**LINDSAY, WILLIAM.**

To the Governor, thanking him for his course in the matter of his appointment to the command of a battalion ..... 510-11

**LINTON, JOHN.**

To the Governor; solicits appointment of jailor at Haymarket, Prince William county ..... 323

**LITTLE, CHARLES.**

To the Governor, asking instructions as to organization of 60th Regiment of Fairfax ..... 28  
Report of arms issued to Col. Deneale of the 60th Regiment ..... 45

**LITTLEJOHN, WM., CAPTAIN.**

Return of troop of cavalry attached to 2d Regiment; soliciting arms for same ..... 471

**LONG, ARMISTEAD.**

To the Governor, assigning reasons for not complying with Governor's orders for delivering artillery in 57th Regiment ..... 610

**LOUDOUN COUNTY.**

Advice of Board concerning officers of the 60th Regiment ..... 69

**LOVE, JOHN.**

To the Governor, informing him of the return of Lieutenant P. N. O'Bannon to Fauquier Courthouse ..... 492

**LOYAL, PAUL, AND OTHERS.**

Petition for the execution of the sentence of the court against the condemned negroes ..... 302

**M****McCAW, DR. JAMES.**

Elected physician and surgeon of penitentiary ..... 108

**McCLENTIC, MRS. ALICE.**

Dropped from list of pensioners; desires to know why ..... 17

**McCLURG, DR. JAMES.**

To the Governor, informing him that he had ordered out a patrol for the right of infantry and cavalry ..... 128  
To the Governor, informing him that patrols were under military direction; promising to solicit the aid of commanders of volunteers in furnishing them ..... 181  
To the Governor, concerning loan of corporation bell by City Hall to the State ..... 190

**McCORMICK, ROBERT & CO.**

To the Governor, concerning a contract supposed to have been made with James Wood, late Governor, for manufacturing arms ..... 65  
To Governor James Wood, proposing to make 4,000 stand of arms on same terms as for United States Government ..... 65-6  
To Hon. James Wood, asking that the promised contract be forwarded ..... 67

# INDEX.

651

To the Governor, asking to be released from further security on their contract than their own obligation.....	74
Concerning amount of security demanded of them; list of prices of sabres.....	89
To the Governor, asking that draft in payment for arms made by him be made payable in Philadelphia.....	182
<b>McCRAW, SAMUEL.</b>	
Removal from Council of State according to the Constitution.....	61
To the Governor; solicits appointment of ensign Public Guard for Mann S. Valentine, with recommendations.....	501
<b>McDONALD, ABRAM.</b>	
Petition for pardon for murder of James Billingsley.....	286
<b>McDOWELL, JOHN.</b>	
Commissioner appointed by State of Maryland to fix boundary line with Virginia	262
<b>McDOWELL, JAMES.</b>	
To the Governor, asking that fine money in his hands be expended in instructing musicians for his regiment.....	362
To the Governor, soliciting commission in rifle regiment to be raised in State under requisition of Congress.....	582
<b>McFARLANE, JAMES.</b>	
To the Governor, forwarding proceeding of meeting of 72d Regiment; tendering services of officers and men, her quota to be furnished by State.....	587
<b>McINTOSH, GEORGE.</b>	
To the Governor, sending testimony to prove that Will, on whose testimony Jeremiah and Ned were convicted, was unreliable.....	298
<b>McKEIN, WM.</b>	
Bond as contractor for building cupolas for manufactory of arms is lodged.....	473
<b>McKENNY, GERRARD.</b>	
Certificate of election of Henry Lee, member of House of Representatives of United States .....	22
<b>McKNIGHT, HANNON.</b>	
Recommended as ensign in 55th Regiment.....	54
<b>McRAE, AL.</b>	
Bond for return of fifty stand of arms for use of a company of grenadiers of 19th Regiment.....	35
Report on condition of Land Office.....	102-3
Report on Gabriel's confession; orders to keeper of penitentiary concerning him..	156
Certificate of administering oath to John Moody as surveyor of James river for removing obstructions to fish.....	346
Report on state of the Treasurer's office.....	371
Recommend Price & Underwood as keepers of public warehouse.....	390
Certificate of list of light infantry in Richmond; advice that commissions issue to George W. Smith, Captain, Wm. Davidson, Lieutenant, and George W. Dixon, ensign of same.....	395-6
Report on state of the treasury.....	496
<b>MADISON, JAMES, JR.</b>	
Elector of President and Vice-President of United States.....	75
<b>MADISON, JAMES (Secretary of State).</b>	
To the Governor; complaint by agent of United States at Jamaica concerning frauds in flour from Virginia.....	266
To the Governor, concerning a box containing a model, in care of collector at Philadelphia, addressed to Governor Monroe.....	348
To the Governor, informing him that the amendment to Constitution of the United States respecting the manner of voting for President and Vice-President of United States, has been ratified by three-fourths of the States.....	415-16
To the Governor, transmitting a proclamation by the President of the United States .....	522

- MADISON, WM.**  
To the Governor, soliciting arms for a company of 1st Battalion, 82d Regiment..... 485
- MALLORY, JOHNSON.**  
To the Governor, resigning commission as captain in the 54th Regiment, borough of Norfolk..... 508  
To the Governor, complaining that the Norfolk grenadier company had been ordered back by Col. Sharp to the militia..... 540
- MARSHALL, GENERAL.**  
Declines to act for Commonwealth against Martin's heirs..... 12  
To the Governor, informing him of his appointment as Secretary of State of United States..... 115-16  
To the Governor, concerning a reported intention to rescue Logwood, convicted of felony in court of United States..... 399
- MARTIN, JOSEPH.**  
To the Governor; agrees to join the other commissioners on boundary line at time and place suggested..... 42  
To the Governor, informing him of the appointment of Colonel Moore, one of the commissioners of the boundary line, as United States marshal; asking that the vacancy be filled..... 276
- MARTIN (Negro).**  
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection, September 12th..... 144
- MARTIN, WM.**  
Recommended as captain of cavalry in 3d Regiment..... 63  
To the Governor, soliciting arms for his company..... 362
- MASON, STEVENS THOMSON.**  
To the Governor, enclosing bonds of R. McCormick for manufacture of arms; drawback of duties on cartouch boxes imported by Swan & Co..... 110-11  
To the Governor, endorsing return of strength of his brigade..... 351
- MASON, JOHN R.**  
Elected member of House of Delegates from Sussex county..... 227
- MASON, THOMPSON.**  
To the Governor, concerning the resignation of Colonel Albert Russell of the 57th Regiment, and appointment of his successor..... 416-17
- MASON, E.**  
To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for 45th Regiment of Stafford..... 448
- MAURY, FONTAIN.**  
To the Governor, informing him of the attempt by three French ships of war to land renegade negroes; attempts to sell them on coasts; asking instructions..... 317-18
- MAYO, JOHN.**  
To the Governor, report of condition of arsenal at Point of Fork, &c..... 9-10
- MAYO, JOHN.**  
Report on progress and masonry on manufactory of arms..... 46  
Removed from Council of State according to the Constitution..... 61  
Concerning what Quarrier told him about Swan's arms..... 91  
To the Governor, tendering services in a military capacity..... 546
- MAYOR OF PETERSBURG.**  
To judges of district court, informing them that the court-house of the town had been improved for use of District Court, &c..... 370
- MATHEWS, THOMAS.**  
To the Governor, informing him of apprehension of citizens of Norfolk of insurrection, and steps taken to suppress it..... 286-7  
To the Governor, informing him that no further discovery had been made as to apprehended insurrection..... 288-9  
To the Governor, informing him of the alarm of people in Norfolk county, near



North Carolina, about insurrection; enclosing the anonymous letter of warning by a negro.....	308-9
To the Governor, informing him of the removal of obstacles to the progress of Rose, a minister extraordinary to Government of United States.....	500
To the Governor, enclosing copy of his letter, addressed to the Secretary of State, relating to the capture of the Chesapeake.....	513
To Hon. James Madison, Secretary of State, relating the particulars of the attack made by the British ship Leopard on the United States ship Chesapeake, off the capes.....	513-14
To the Governor, forwarding copy of resolutions of citizens of Norfolk and Portsmouth relative to attack of British ship Leopard on United States frigate Chesapeake, held at Town Hall, June 24th, 1807; Thomas Mathews, chairman; Sam'l Moseley, secretary.....	517-20
To the Governor, informing him of the sending an officer from the British squadron on shore with dispatches to the Consul, and the irritation of the citizens thereat.....	520
To the Governor, informing him of reported threats of the British commander to take supplies by force; of the scarcity of arms.....	521
To the Governor, enclosing copy of letter transmitted by Commodore Douglass of British squadron, to the Mayor of Norfolk; copy also sent Secretary of War.....	524-5
To the Governor, informing him of movement of the British squadron; measures taken for defence of Norfolk.....	533-4
To the Governor, informing him of movement of British squadron; transmitting President's proclamation to British commander.....	537
To the Governor, informing him of force of British squadron.....	539-40
To the Governor, informing him of the capture by Captain Shepard of two British midshipmen and three seamen on shore getting water.....	541-2
To the Governor, informing him that two British ships remain within the capes; that negroes have escaped to them; Major Ambler's recall delayed.....	546
To the Governor, informing him of British squadron's movements and taking some pieces of cannon from a wrecked British tender near Currituck; commendation of Major Ambler and his detachment.....	549-50
To the Governor, enclosing copy of letter to British commander and instructions to Major Tazewell.....	553
To Sir Thomas Hardy, returning packet put on pilot from Hampton by boat from his ship; informing of conditions prescribed by United States for communications.....	554
To Major Tazewell; object of mission to commander of British squadron.....	554
To the Governor, informing him of necessity of more and stronger defences for Norfolk; advising longer terms of service; also the 54th Regiment be reserved for special service about Norfolk, &c.....	559-60-2
To the Governor, informing him of the surrender of British officers and seamen captured on shore.....	567-8
To Sir Thomas Hardy; letter accompanying the officers and seamen captured by cavalry company.....	568
To Major Tazewell; ordered to proceed to Sir Thomas Hardy, commander British squadron in charge of officers and seamen captured on shore by cavalry.....	568-9
To the Governor, informing him of purpose to send Captain Taylor to make an effort to recover supposed Americans; likewise some slaves from ship Triumph.....	572-3
To the Governor, relating that Captain Hardy objects to his letters for the consul being delivered unsealed; five negroes delivered to Captain Taylor; two identified by owners.....	575
To Captain Taylor; report of mission to British squadron; his communication with Captain Hardy.....	575-80
To the Governor, enclosing letter from Sir Thomas Hardy.....	580
To the Governor, informing him of arrival of a ship supposed to bear Admiral Berkeley.....	582
To the Governor, enclosing papers referred to in Captain Taylor's report.....	583
To the Governor, informing him of the demand made by the captain of the Columbine for four months' supply of water, which was refused.....	585
To the Governor, informing him of progress made by Commodore Decatur with gun-boats and securing seamen.....	885
To the Governor; considered the demand for supplies made by captain of Columbine excessive and an abuse of privilege; documents from Secretary of State respecting citizens detained on British squadron.....	586-7
To the Governor, stating strength of British squadron.....	590
To Major Thomas Newton, transmitting general orders from the Governor as to defence of Norfolk, &c.....	591

**MERCER, JOHN F.**

- To the Governor, enclosing copy of law by Legislature of Maryland respecting Turnpike road on western frontier of said State; also, resolution for ascertaining western and southern boundary line of Maryland and Virginia..... 262
- To the Governor; requisition for Newell Walton charged with abduction of free-men as slaves from Maryland..... 317

**MERCER, JOHN.**

- To the Council, requesting information when a joint committee of House and Senate would proceed to examine into expenditures of Executive department for preceeding year..... 339-40

**MERCER, HUGH.**

- To the Governor, soliciting arms for his company of cavalry..... 355
- A return of Captain Larkin Stanard's company republican riflemen... 449

**MERCHANT, CAPTAIN ELIHU.**

- To the Governor, complaining of suffering of self and men in Richmond jail..... 195

**MECKLENBURG COUNTY.**

- Petition of citizens for pardon of negroes George and Jack, convicted of murder of Elijah Graves..... 17
- Court of inquiry in 22d Regiment; fines against 157 names..... 217

**MICHAEL (*alias* Mike).**

- Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection, September 11th..... 140

**MILITIA OFFICERS AND OTHERS.**

- List of, delinquent in returning public arms drawn on the late alarm..... 185

**MILLER, M.**

- To the Governor, tendering services of the Cumberland Riflemen..... 615

**MILLER, THOMAS.**

- To the Governor, soliciting arms for troop raised in Powhatan..... 385
- To the Governor, requesting, under resolution of House, to be informed of sums necessary towards building manufactory of arms, penitentiary, and James river warehouse ..... 463

**MILLER, WM. H.**

- Petition for sheriffalty of Goochland, with certificates filed..... 118

**MILSON, JAMES.**

- To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for company in 1st Regiment..... 440

**MIMS, MARTIN.**

- Asking an advance on brick work done on penitentiary..... 19
- Official bond as keeper of penitentiary is filed..... 100
- Report on foundation of tilt-hammer at manufactory of arms..... 105
- To the Governor, informing him of employment of George A. Still to instruct prisoners in nail-making, and Joseph Kimbrough as turn-key..... 120
- To the Governor; asks opinion as to employing additional guards at penitentiary.. 137
- Memorandum of negroes sentenced to transportation delivered to Wm. Fulcher by order of Governor, with names ..... 327-8
- Report on management and condition of penitentiary..... 334-5
- To the Governor, asking for a copy of report of inspectors, containing censure of him ..... 341
- Report defending himself against charges brought by Board of Inspectors..... 343
- To the Governor, informing him of escape of three of the convicts from penitentiary, and the mode; asking for additional guards..... 351-2
- To the Governor, asking that compensation be made to two assistants employed at penitentiary ..... 385
- To the Governor, notifying him of escape of three prisoners from penitentiary..... 391
- To the Governor, advising removal of two blacksmith-shops to a spot opposite front gate at penitentiary for barrack for guard..... 398
- To the Governor, asking appointment of Harrison Gordon as clerk of penitentiary 412
- To the Governor, transmitting statement of accounts of the jail and penitentiary house ..... 428

# INDEX.

755

To the Governor; report of number of arms distributed by him, and those on hand; return of those made by Alexander Quarrier in arsenal at Capitol.....	440-1
To the Governor, representing insufficiency of guard at the penitentiary.....	449
To the Governor, informing him of the escape of eight prisoners from the penitentiary at one time.....	456
To the Governor; receipt for twenty dollars for distribution among the slaves most active in pursuit of convicts who escaped from penitentiary.....	475
To the Governor, informing him of attempts of convicts to escape from penitentiary; recommending stronger guard.....	494
To the Governor, informing him of his intention to resign place as superintendent penitentiary on March 31st, 1807.....	502
<b>MINOR, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing copy of letter of Col. Thomas Lee, respecting the Bristoe estate.....	61
To the Governor, recommending John Reynolds, of London, for taking depositions in suit against Bristoe.....	70
To the Governor, concerning his employment as assistant counsel in case of Commonwealth v. Bristoe; asking fee; advising employment of American Consul at London to take depositions in the case.....	226
To the Governor, enclosing return of Captain Robert Lewis' company in 2d regiment of artillery.....	458
To the Governor, informing him of eighty stand of arms at Bark's old tavern, in Caroline, needing care.....	466
<b>MINOR, THOMAS.</b>	
To Samuel Coleman; return of number and condition of arms of Captains Thornton and Mercer.....	41
<b>MITCHELL, JOHN.</b>	
Appointment as surveyor of Hampshire county is lodged.....	386
<b>MITCHELL, ROBERT.</b>	
To the Governor, resigning as inspector of penitentiary.....	386
To the Governor, informing him of his efforts to suppress gaming and to stop the firing of guns during Christmas holidays.....	490
<b>MONCURE, WM.</b>	
To John Heath; desires instruction for H. Eustace, agent for Bristoe's estate, as to sale of tobacco received from same.....	472
<b>MONROE, JAMES.</b>	
Elected Governor of Virginia.....	60
To Edmund Randolph, asking opinion in the case of some slaves brought from Maryland and condemned in court of Southampton for murder.....	71-2
Orders concerning Gabriel.....	156
Re-elected Governor by General Assembly and took oaths required.....	226
To the Governor, relative to settlement with Artist Houdon.....	280
To the Council, acknowledging the complimentary communication of the Council on retiring from office of Chief Magistrate.....	330
To the Governor, informing him of the payment by him of balance due Artist Houdon for statue of General Washington; receipt of Houdon for balance due.....	365
To the Governor, advising a compromise by the State of claims of British subjects for tracts of land and lots in our counties and towns; proposing to take the agency gratis.....	377-9
<b>MOODY, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor; report of work of removing obstructions to fish in James river; bill of expenses for same.....	360
To the Governor; petition of increase of salary as surveyor of falls of James river.....	362
Contract for removing obstructions to passage of fish in falls.....	369-90
Bill for expense and work on falls of James river.....	391
Report on removing obstructions in falls of James river to passage of fish lodged.....	391
To the Governor; report of work done in removing obstructions in falls of James river; soliciting compensation.....	443
To the Governor, reporting violations of law regarding obstructions to fish in James river.....	471

<b>MOORE, ANDREW.</b>	
Electer President and Vice-President United States.....	75
To the Governor, accepting appointment as Senator of United States.....	414
<b>MOORE, HENRY.</b>	
Petition of officers of Bank of Alexandria and others for his appointment as notary public.....	115
Official bond as notary public for Alexandria on file.....	118
<b>MORGAN, ABRAHAM.</b>	
To the Governor, asking that the division between the 55th and 67th Regiments be the dividing line between Berkeley and Jefferson counties.....	435
<b>MORGAN, WM.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning quarantine at York.....	182
To the Governor, resigning commission as superintendent quarantine of Yorktown; recommending Peyton Smith for same.....	413
<b>MORRIS, BENJAMIN.</b>	
Recommended by county court of Buckingham for sheriff.....	39
<b>MORRIS, WM.</b>	
Proposal to purchase seven condemned slaves .....	196-7
To the Governor, in regard to the murder of Bennett Rodgers by slaves going down Ohio river.....	215
<b>MOSBY, WM.</b>	
To the Governor; informs of a projected insurrection and making preparation to arrest it; letter used by Governor in message of 5th of December, 1800.....	168-9
<b>MOSELEY, WILLIAM.</b>	
To the Governor; official bond as treasurer of Commonwealth is filed.....	341
Official bond as Treasurer of Commonwealth is lodged.....	387
To the Governor; report on conduct of keeper of penitentiary.....	421
To the Governor, informing that he had felt bound to ask advice of Messrs. Hay & Wickham on choosing directors for the bank, for which they expect a fee .....	422
Official bond as Treasurer of Commonwealth for one year is lodged.....	435
Official bond as Treasurer of Commonwealth lodged.....	464
To the Governor, enclosing official bond as Treasurer.....	511
Return of company of riflemen of 102d Regiment, acknowledging themselves enlisted for five years.....	511
<b>MOSEBY, LITTLEBURY, JR.</b>	
Certificate of, and Wm. Moseley, that officers of rifle companies of Revolutionary army drew rifles of the public.....	343
<b>MUNFORD, WILLIAM.</b>	
Qualified as Privy Councillor 28th day of May, 1806.....	485
To the Governor, consenting to pronounce an eulogy for Chancellor Wythe.....	487
<b>MURPHY, JOHN.</b>	
Made affidavit before chief justice of Baltimore county concerning the abduction of freemen as slaves to Caroline county, Va.....	315
<b>MYERS, CAPTAIN.</b>	
To receive thirty artillery swords for use of his company.....	32
Bond for redelivery of ten artillery swords on file.....	38
<b>MYERS, JOHN.</b>	
Recommended as lieutenant 67th Regiment.....	54
<b>MYERS, THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor; petition for letters of introduction and obedience to indemnify him in efforts to recover fugitive slaves.....	227

N

NASH, WM.

To the Governor, soliciting arms for a rifle company raised by Captain Lee, of the 95th Regiment..... 513

NAT (Negro).

Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection September 11th..... 140

NED (Negro).

Condemned in Caroline court for insurrection; recommended by said court as an object of Executive mercy..... 170

Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection; testimony of Prosser's Ben..... 171

Condemned in court of Norfolk borough for insurrection; testimony of George Suggs and Will..... 296

Acquitted by court of Norfolk of charge of insurrection..... 301

NELSON, ROGER.

Commissioner appointed by State of Maryland to fix boundary line with Virginia 262

NELSON, THOMAS.

To the Governor, stating that no arms had been furnished his company..... 39

NELSON, T. M.

To the Governor, soliciting arms for troop of cavalry attached to 1st Regiment; return of same..... 471

NELSON, WM.

To Samuel Coleman: reports bad condition of arms delivered him..... 39

To the Governor: return of arms, &c., in possession of 68th Regiment..... 47

To the Governor, informing him of orders to Captains to forward arms to him to be sent to Richmond..... 119

To the Governor, recommending Wm. Morgan for quarantine officer at York..... 136

NELSON, WM., JR.

Allotted judge of districts of Winchester, Hardy, and Monongalia Courthouse..... 56

To the Governor, concerning commission as chancellor of the district of Williamsburg..... 358

To the Governor, declining appointment of judge of the high court of chancery for district of Williamsburg..... 359

To the Governor; information concerning the stealing of free negro boy named George from town of Dover, in Delaware, by Bonnet, Gabb, and Clarke, and order of district court for his return, &c..... 396

NEVILL, JOSEPH.

To the Governor, informing him that the officer of militia in Hardy county was unable to give a return of his regiment; should order battalion musters in all his counties to ascertain number of men and arms..... 346-7

NEWCOME, WM.

Elector President and Vice-President of United States..... 74

NEWELL, JAMES.

Certificate of election as representative to Congress of Abram Trigg..... 281

NEWMAN, ROBERT.

To the Governor, soliciting money to enable him to explore the far West..... 327

NEWSUM, WM.

To the Governor, certifying to the character of George McIntosh, who has exerted his influence to save the lives of the condemned negroes in Norfolk..... 301

NEWTON, THOMAS.

To the Governor, calling on new subscription to Dismal Swamp canal for money to carry on work: account of progress of work and of burning of houses..... 6

To the Governor, soliciting a payment to Dismal Swamp canal for State's shares; also payment to himself for ground taken to build Fort Nelson on..... 16-17

To the Governor, asking for a small boat for quarantine use; and for proclamation for West India Islands.....	30
To the Governor, soliciting pay for town sergeant and others.....	41
To the Governor, asking to have James Boyce credited with \$400 as sergeant of Norfolk, and same charged to quarantine account.....	46
To the Governor, advising discontinuance of quarantine; informing of suit against him about shipment of horses.....	54
To the Governor, concerning the launching of a frigate, &c.....	55
To the Governor, enclosing Dr. Read's report as inspector of quarantine at Norfolk	58-9
Elector President and Vice-President United States.....	75
To the Governor, concerning his appointment to value Gosport lands; also suit of Thomas Hamilton & Co. respecting shipment of horses.....	105
To the Governor, requesting that the new attorney-general be instructed concerning the suit of Hamilton against him.....	106
To the Governor, informing him of valuation agreed upon by Wm. Pennock and himself for Gosport.....	109
Commissioner of Marine Hospital.....	116
To the Governor; report concerning sickness in Norfolk.....	126
To the Governor, informing of the extent of contagion at Norfolk; appointment of commissioner of election, &c.....	131-2
To the Governor, relating to exaggerated accounts of sickness at Norfolk.....	134
To the Governor, enclosing Wm. Sharp's list of new cases and deaths from fever at Norfolk.....	136
To the Governor; hopes disease is declining with cool weather; meal selling at 8s. 3d. per bushel.....	137
To the Governor, respecting the conduct of Richardson Tayloe, master of schooner on which Gabriel was captured.....	154-5
To Obadiah Gunn and Robert Wilson; directions how to convey Gabriel to Richmond	156
To the Governor; informs that the fever had left Norfolk; some appearance of insubordination among negroes.....	160
To the Governor, informing him of alarming accounts of insurrection in Norfolk; care taken to prevent it; foreign news.....	173
To the Governor, informing him of difficulty in transporting negro Sam Brown....	195
To the Governor, asking instructions as to a cargo of slaves belonging to New England, sent into Norfolk by Captain Barron.....	197
To the Governor, asking instructions as to quarantine.....	207
To the Governor, informing him of mortality from fever in Norfolk.....	215
To the Governor, informing him that the fever is confined to British, who are hard drinkers; Frenchmen do not have it.....	216
To the Governor, relating to Dismal Swamp canal; more money needed.....	217
To the Governor, recommending Alexander Jordan as notary public for Norfolk; he having been elected to Congress, resigned commission.....	218
To the Governor, enclosing report on state of Dismal Swamp canal.....	220-1
Elected State Senator.....	226
To the Governor, informing him of shipment of negro Sam Brown for transportation to St. Croix.....	274
To the Governor; is glad the condemned negroes in Norfolk have been reprieved for a time; hopes they will never be allowed to go at large in Norfolk.....	300-1
To the Governor, informing him that by advice of mayor and aldermen of Norfolk all vessels from West Indies and Bahama Islands, Baltimore and Philadelphia should be examined by Dr. Read.....	316
To the Governor, informing him of an opportunity to transport thirty condemned negroes.....	318
To the Governor, enclosing list of negroes in penitentiary; advising to accept offer by Fulcher; negroes cannot be sold in West India islands.....	320
To the Governor, enclosing Dr. Read's return of vessels visited; some mortality among strangers; healthy among inhabitants.....	320
To the Governor, enclosing Dr. Read's report of vessels visited by him.....	329
To the Governor, concerning progress made in work on Dismal Swamp canal.....	330
To the Governor, desiring instructions as to American seamen discharged from British navy.....	349
To the Governor, enclosing report of J. K. Read, physician, as to health of discharged seamen from British navy.....	350
To the Governor, asking instruction respecting a quarantine at Norfolk, with his opinion as to same.....	366-7
To the Governor, informing him of schooner from New York stranded in Nansemond river with cases of fever; also another with men, women, and children quarantined; recommending cabins for temporary hospital.....	367

# INDEX.

659

To the Governor, recommending stoppage of all vessels from distant points.....	368
To the Governor, informing him that British officers are enlisting men in Norfolk; three men taken on board privateer; deposition of Benjamin White.....	369
To the Governor, informing him that danger from infectious disease is past; asking that vessels may pass.....	376
To the Governor, enclosing report of Dr. Read of vessels visited by him during quarantine.....	377
To the Governor, informing him of depredations by fishermen on timber upon public land near Old Point.....	404
To the Governor, resigning appointment as superintendent quarantine at Norfolk..	411
To the Governor; report of condition of work on Dismal Swamp canal, and prospects.....	418
To the Governor, enclosing report of president and directors of Dismal Swamp canal of progress made, &c.....	422-3
To the Governor; report of condition, receipts and prospects of Dismal Swamp canal.....	423-4
To the Governor, informing him of insubordination of negroes of Isle of Wight county.....	437
To the Governor, suggesting appointment of quarantine officer for Norfolk.....	444
To Major Wm. Dudley, sending letter to him, coming by the Columbine, with dispatches, &c.....	565
To the Governor, acknowledging receipt of orders through General Mathews; informing of sending Captains Read and Robinson with documents from Secretary of State for liberation of American seamen.....	592-4
To the Governor, enclosing copies of letters from Sir Robert Laurie, and report from Captains Read and Robinson; corporal and two men under arrest for sleeping on post; asks court-martial for them.....	595
To the Governor, forwarding copy of dispatches of Sir Robert Laurie, commanding British squadron, with comments.....	600-1
To the Governor, informing him of his compulsion to go to Washington on the 15th of October; asking for appointment of some one in his place; recommending the fortification of Craney Island.....	604-5

## NICHOLAS, WILSON CARY.

Elected United States Senator for Virginia.....	60
Security on Treasurer's bond.....	68

## NICHOLAS, PHILIP N.

Resignation of captaincy of Richmond Republican Infantry.....	27
To Samuel Coleman; report of arms received for his company.....	40
To the Governor; opinion of the eligibility of Thomas Carter to a captaincy in the Virginia militia.....	127
To court of Henrico; effort to induce court to recommend negro King to the clemency of the Executive.....	161
Elected Attorney-General.....	191
To the Governor; opinion as to cargo of slaves captured by Captain Barron and sent into Norfolk.....	199-200
To the Governor, calling attention to situation of certain public lands in Buckingham county.....	281-2
To the Governor, concerning a claim of one De Beau Marchais against the Commonwealth.....	282-3
To the Governor, asking that certain witnesses may be sent for by express in case of Commonwealth v. Read.....	329
To Lieutenant-Governor; letter from Robert Page and order of court of chancery, Staunton, in suit of Martin's heirs, in which Mr. Page was employed by Executive.....	344
To the Governor; opinion as to salary of public printer.....	346
To the Governor, informing him of services rendered by Mr. Irving, American Consul at London, concerning the Bristoe estate.....	392
To the Governor, advising as to means for stopping depredations on public lands at Point Comfort.....	392-3
To the Governor, informing him of a suit against State in Court of Appeals for the Bristoe estate; advising that counsel be employed to aid the attorney.....	454
To the Governor, informing him of suit instituted against Captain Potter for detention of gun-stocks purchased by State.....	463
To the Governor, advising arbitration on question of freight on gun-stocks, and dismissal of suit against Captain Potter.....	466
To the Governor, relating the history of the escheat of Martin's estate in Fred-	

erick ; Robert Page, assistant counsel, asks compensation for his services for the State .....	467-8
To the Governor ; opinion that a magistrate removing from his county to another, intending to become a resident thereof, forfeits his character of magistrate .....	486
To the Governor ; opinion as to charges exhibited by Dunlevy against Stephenson .....	490-1
<b>NICHOLAS, JOHN.</b>	
Certificate that court of Albemarle county ordered that Samuel Carr be recommended as captain of troop of horse to the 88th Regiment.....	491
<b>NICHOLAS, W. C.</b>	
To the Governor, resigning office of Senator of United States.....	397-8
<b>NICHOLSON, GEORGE.</b>	
To the Governor, asks permission for vessels at quarantine at Jordan's Point to come to Richmond quarantine station.....	174
To the Governor, soliciting appointment as surveyor of county of Norfolk.....	284
<b>NICHOLSON, THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor, offering to furnish Acts of General Assembly for \$3 per copy.....	381
To the Governor, proposing to print 1,500 copies of Laws of Congress for \$283 92 ; accepted .....	419
<b>NIVISON, JOHN.</b>	
Commissioned lieutenant-colonel commandant of 54th Regiment.....	29
To the Governor, enclosing account for ammunition for 54th Regiment during threatened insurrection.....	338
<b>NORFOLK BOROUGH.</b>	
Action of hustings court on the distribution of pamphlets containing resolutions of General Assembly.. ..	20
Quarterly session of court recommended John Nivison as recorder in room of Thomas Newton, resigned.....	445
<b>NORFOLK LEDGER.</b>	
History of the fight between the United States Frigate Chesapeake, Captain Barron, and the British Ship Leopard, Captain Humphries.....	514-17
<b>NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY.</b>	
Court recommend inspectors for following warehouses : Indian, Dymers, Wicomoco, and Coan, naming them.. ..	214
<b>NOTTOWAY COUNTY.</b>	
Papers relative to apprehended insurrection of negroes in 1801 .....	263
<b>NOTTOWAY TRIBE OF INDIANS.</b>	
Disposition of land belonging to them.....	332
<b>O</b>	
<b>OGLE, BENJAMIN.</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing letter from Governor Bassett, of Delaware, regarding negroes convicted in court of Southampton county.....	108
<b>OLIVER, BENJAMIN.</b>	
To the Governor, solicits swords and pistols for Hanover cavalry.....	154
<b>ORDNANCE.</b>	
Proposals for building.....	387
<b>OTIS, SAMUEL A.</b>	
To the Governor, forwarding resolution of Senate for notification of the death of Hon. Henry Tazewell.....	4
<b>OVERTON, BENJAMIN.</b>	
To Captain Grice, informing him of an insurrection in Hartford and Bertie counties, N. C., in progress.....	308



P

PAGE, ROBERT.

To the Governor, submitting claim as attorney for attention to injunction case of Martins Exors v. Commonwealth..... 355

PAGE, MANN.

To the Governor, accepting the commission as chancellor of Williamsburg district; qualified to same ..... 361-2

PAGE, JOHN.

Elector of President and Vice-President United States..... 75  
Qualified as Governor of Virginia ..... 340  
Qualified as Chief Magistrate by Daniel Hylton, December 20th, 1803..... 381  
Circular letter to escheators throughout State with advice of Council to employ no assistant counsel without consent of Executive..... 388  
To President United States, asking information respecting the Sierra Leone company's disposition to allow their land as an asylum for negroes from Virginia.....419-20

PARHAM, WM. Ensley.

To the Governor, giving number of men raised by him for a company in 62d Regiment..... 11

PARKE, BENJAMIN.

To the Governor, informing him that he had instituted quarantine at Fredericksburg on account of fever at Norfolk..... 215  
To the Governor, informing him that he had put the quarantine law in force in Fredericksburg on account of fever in Norfolk, Baltimore, and Philadelphia..... 322  
To the Governor, reporting death of man just off voyage from Savannah; thought by Dr. French to be case of fever ..... 225  
To the Governor, informing of quarantine at Fredericksburg against New York city on account of fever..... 366  
To the Governor, informing him of arrival of vessel with case of small-pox; quarantine enforced..... 419

PARKER, RICHARD.

Alleged judge in districts of Staunton, Charlottesville, Fredericksburg, and Dumfries ..... 36  
To the Governor, recommending Samuel Templeman for sheriffship of Westmoreland ..... 118

PARKER, JOSIAH.

Com. of Marine Hospital..... 116

PARKER, WATTS.

Commissioned quarantine officer at Port Royal ..... 175  
To the Governor, relating to quarantine at Port Royal, and danger from vessels from Baltimore ..... 181  
To the Governor, relating to violation of orders by Captain Hunter in taking his vessel up Rappahannock, contrary to orders of quarantine officer..... 182

PAINE, SAMUEL.

To the Governor, informing him that Mr. James Newell, owner of lead mines in Wythe county, desired to deliver remainder of lead lent by Executive to Messrs. Austin..... 474-5

PAMUNKEY INDIANS.

Statement of title to land belonging to them ..... 332

PARSONS, JOHN MONTAGUE.

Petition of, and others, for commissions in a cavalry company in Culpeper county is filed ..... 548

PATTERSON, JOHN.

Certificate that James Spark did not qualify as magistrate until some time after Mr. Glascock, as sheriff..... 126

**PATTERSON, DAVID.**

To Samuel Coleman: report to be made by Major Branch of arms to light infantry and grenadiers.....	41
To the Governor, promising to collect arms in hands of militia in Chesterfield.....	120
To the Governor, certifying to the needy condition of Anne Shepherd, daughter of Wm. Shepherd, deceased, a pensioner.....	463

**PAYNE, MOSES.**

Recommended as 1st lieutenant of new company of cavalry to be raised in Frederick county.....	25
---	----

**PENDLETON, JOHN.**

Security on Treasurer's bond.....	67
-----------------------------------	----

**PENN, GEORGE.**

Elector President and Vice-President of United States.....	75
Elected State Senator from the Franklin district.....	227

**PENDLETON, EDMUND, JR.**

Elector for President and Vice-President of United States.....	75
To the Governor, forwarding copy of testimony taken at trial of three slaves condemned in Caroline court.....	166
Report on state of treasury.....	324
Report on disbursements and discounts made at the treasury between the 1st day of January and 31st day of March, inclusive.....	324-5

**PENITENTIARY MANUFACTURES.**

Value of holsters, sword-belts, and cartridge-boxes made between April 1st and May 31st, 1807.....	513
--	-----

**PERKINS, ROBERT.**

To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for company of light infantry raised in New Kent.....	491
--	-----

**PETER (Negro).**

Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	148
Recommended by the said court for pardon; endorsed "pardoned".....	161

**PETERS, WM.**

Recommended by court of Sussex for second lieutenant.....	59
---	----

**PETERSON, JOHN H.**

To the Governor, soliciting arms for troop of cavalry raised in Prince George county.....	471
---	-----

**PICKETT, POLLARD AND JOHNSON.**

To the Governor, asking another advance for Swan for \$15,000.....	88
To the Governor, requesting reimbursement of amount paid for duty on cartouch boxes shipped by Swan.....	115
To the Governor, announcing arrival of three cases (sixty stand) of arms; Swan's last contract.....	136
To the Governor; report on character of arms recently arrived.....	138
To the Governor, declining offer of Executive for the 4,000 stand of arms; offering to close at \$9 per stand, net.....	193
To the Governor; consents to accept terms offered for Swan's arms on 23d of February.....	206
Indemnifying bond to State against them as agents of Swan.....	213

**PHIL (Negro man).**

Condemned in court of Brunswick for insurrection; testimony of George, Ransom and Jeffrey against.....	279
--	-----

**PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY COURT.**

Declining to distribute resolutions on the alien and sedition laws.....	37
---	----

**PLEASANTS, SAMUEL, JR.**

To the Governor, presenting account for printing revised Code.....	348
--	-----

To the Governor, informing him of the completion and delivery of additional copies of revised Laws.....	389
To the Governor, soliciting office of Public Printer.....	390
To the Governor, acknowledging appointment as Public Printer .....	392
Official bond as Public Printer is lodged.....	458
<b>PLEASANTS, JOHN G.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting appointment as chief accountant of penitentiary.....	100
To Lieutenant-Governor, soliciting arms for a light infantry company.....	448
<b>PLEASANTS, JAMES.</b>	
Certificate that Tarlton W. Pleasants has written up Journals of House of Delegates for 1793 and 1798.....	379
<b>POINTER, SAMUEL.</b>	
Bond as contractor for rations to Public Guard is lodged.....	485
<b>POLLARD, ROBERT.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning the purchase of 4,000 stand of arms from Swan.....	50
To the Governor, stating the lowest price at which he is authorized to sell Swan's arms .....	51
To the Governor, offering Swan's arms at \$10 per stand.....	58
To the Governor, informing him of arrival of 4,000 stand of arms shipped by Swan	64
To the Governor, proposing to send arms to the Capitol, &c.....	65
To the Governor, informing him of appointment of Major Wm. Preston on behalf of Swan to value arms.....	71
To the Governor, soliciting further advance on Pollard's consignment of arms; protesting against proving them with wet powder, &c.....	97
To the Governor; proposition for a compromise in the price of Swan's arms.....	99
To the Governor, complaining of the terms offered for settlement of Swan's claim for arms.....	100-1
To the Governor, consenting to accept various prices stated for Swan's arms.....	109
Certificate that Philip Pendleton, appointed sheriff, failed to give bond.....	187
<b>POLLARD, JOSEPH.</b>	
To the Governor; solicits appointment as agent for collecting arrears of taxes from sheriffs .....	502
<b>PORTERFIELD, GENERAL ROBERT.</b>	
Elected as member of House of Representatives of United States.....	24
To the Governor, soliciting arms for companies of Captain Allen of 32d, and Captain Herron of 58th Regiments.....	25
<b>POTOMACK COMPANY.</b>	
Report of president and directors at annual meeting, August 2d, 1802.....	311-14
<b>PRENTIS, JOSEPH.</b>	
Allotted judge in districts of Northumberland Courthouse, King and Queen Courthouse, Williamsburg, and Accomack Courthouse.....	56
<b>PRENTIS, WILLIAM.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him that he has caused the arrest of Reuben and Jesse Byrd, of Petersburg.....	154
To the Governor; information of apprehended insurrection; asking for ammunition .....	270
To the Governor, informing him of the finding of a parcel of counterfeit money by boys, amounting to \$800, under a large rock; asking for instructions concerning same.....	399
<b>PRESTON, FRANCIS.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting fifty copies of Militia Laws, and same number of Steuben's Regulations for 70th and 105th Regiments.....	100
To the Governor, soliciting arms for Captain Smith's company of cavalry of 70th Regiment.....	364
<b>PRESTON, JAMES P.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting a piece of artillery for his company.....	58
Received of Executive a sabre and belt procured by the General Assembly for representatives of General William Campbell.....	340

## PRESTON, JOHN.

Elected brigadier-general of brigade of Wythe, Montgomery, and Monroe.....	4
To the Executive, accepting commission of brigadier-general, and resigning colonelcy of the 3d Regiment.....	4-5
Elector President and Vice-President of United States.....	75

## PRESTON, THOMAS.

To the Governor, asking to have piece of cannon at Staunton remounted for use of his company at Lexington, and for arms, &c., for same .....	510
To the Governor, asking for a piece of cannon at Staunton for use of his company .....	598

## PRESTON, WM.

Report on number and value of arms furnished by James Swan.....	87
Opinion of arms furnished by Swan .....	90
To the Governor, asking compensation as brigade inspector.....	90

## PRICE, JAMES.

Denying the claim of negro Sam, convicted of murder of Butte and Seirs, to freedom; action of the Board.....	62
To Benjamin Ogle (Governor of Maryland), denying the right of negro Sam, condemned by court of Southampton for murder, to his freedom.....	99
To the Governor; resignation as tobacco inspector at Byrd's warehouse filed.....	286

## PRICE, N. W.

To the Governor, expressing satisfaction at the choice of Meriwether Jones by the Richmond Republican Infantry as their captain .....	27
---	----

## PRICE, WM.

Informing of completion of alphabets to record books.....	107-8
To the Governor, asking permission to purchase Franklin stoves for use of Land Office .....	127
To the Governor, dividing expense of back work in the Land Office performed by John Harvie and Charles Lewis.....	196
To the Governor, enclosing accounts against John Harvie and Charles Lewis for work done for them in the office of Register of Land.....	198-9
Official bond as one of the superintendents of public warehouse lodged.....	381
Certificate of warrant issued to Simon Morgan.....	494

## PRICE &amp; UNDERWOOD.

To the Governor, informing him of material needed at the public warehouse for its business.....	394
To the Governor, informing him of complaints of unsafe condition of public warehouse from leakiness.....	428

## PRIOR, J.

To the Governor, desiring to learn the charges against him as umpire in valuation of arms of James Swan.....	88-9
--	------

## PRINTERS.

Proposal of sundry parties for printing Laws of Congress.....	448
---	-----

## PROCLAMATION.

By the Governor, stating that, as danger from infectious disease has ceased, the interruption to the commerce of the Commonwealth need no longer be continued For quarantine of September 21st, 1805, on account of infectious disease in New York, Philadelphia, and West India Islands.....	376
	451

## PROSSER, GEORGE.

To the Executive, soliciting increase of salary as assistant of the penitentiary.....	107
---	-----

## PRUNTY, JOHN.

To the Governor, soliciting appointment for self and Col. Wm. John as commissioners for boundary line with Maryland, and George Arnold as surveyor for same .....	278
To the Governor, reporting sale of negro man Dick, condemned in court of Harrison to transportation.....	352-3

## PRYOR, J.

To the Governor, denouncing charges against him as frivolous.....	89
---	----

# INDEX.

665

## PUBLIC ARMS.

Issued from arsenal at Point of Fork by order of Executive, and to whom ..... 51-2

## PUBLIC WAREHOUSE.

Treasurer unable to pay warrant for \$1,500, because it exceeded balance of appropriation ..... 331

## Q

### QUARLES, ROBERT.

To the Governor, enclosing quarterly return of military stores at the arsenal, and also pay-roll of same..... 14-15  
 To the Governor, concerning arms asked for by Hon. A. McRae..... 26-7  
 To the Governor, enclosing return of arms, &c., at arsenal; also, account of destruction of machinery by a flood..... 34-5  
 To the Governor, forwarding proposals of two parties for furnishing rations at arsenal..... 49  
 To the Governor; quarterly return of military stores at arsenal..... 49-50  
 To the Governor, sending account of expenses of repairing arms issued to Captain McRae's company..... 67  
 Return of military stores at arsenal..... 68  
 To the Governor, concerning quarterly return of military stores at arsenal ..... 104  
 To Samuel Coleman, informing him of return of arms issued to Captain Archibald McRae..... 110  
 To the Governor, informing him that arms issued Captain Tinsley's company were returned to arsenal..... 113  
 To the Governor, transmits quarterly return of arms, &c., at arsenal, &c..... 119  
 To the Governor, concerning the garrison at Point of Fork..... 178  
 Quarterly report of military stores at the arsenal ..... 179  
 To the Governor, informing him of letting the contractor's office to supply rations 183-4  
 To the Governor, informing him of plans for the safe-keeping of public buildings at the arsenal..... 202  
 To Samuel Coleman, enclosing contracts for rent of public land and houses at Point of Fork; list of officers and privates..... 213

### QUARRIER, ALEXANDER.

To the Governor, concerning contract for shingles for public buildings ..... 48  
 To the Governor, separate report on quality of arms furnished by James Swan..... 87-8  
 Opinion of arms furnished by Swan..... 90  
 Report on 250 muskets from Wheeler's works..... 217  
 Certificate of examination of ten casks of gunpowder; bill of Tristian Patton for same ..... 217  
 To the Governor, enclosing bill of John Newell for hauling nine cannon from Taylor's Ferry to Richmond..... 271  
 To the Governor, suggesting appointment of more corporals to Public Guard ..... 303  
 To the Governor, asking that Lieutenant Underwood be sent to Kentucky to attend to payment of tax on lands there..... 328  
 To the Governor, asking if the flag and standard of Public Guard should be made to agree with that of the United States..... 328  
 To the Governor; report of condition of arms and military stores in Richmond..... 358-9  
 To the Governor, asking additional compensation for receiving and delivering public arms..... 389  
 Return of Public Guard..... 450  
 To the Governor, relating occurrence of the shooting of Mr. McCreddie by the sentinel of the Public Guard ..... 502

## R

### RANDOLPH COUNTY.

Advised that 11th Regiment be divided; that the regiment in Randolph be numbered 107; the other to retain No. 11..... 80

### RANDOLPH (Negro).

Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection; recommended by said court as an object of mercy; endorsed "pardoned"..... 158

### RANDOLPH, EDMUND.

To the Governor; opinion in the case of negroes brought from Maryland to Virginia and condemned in the court of Southampton for murder..... 72-3

To the Governor; opinion of inspection given to Swan's arms.....	91-2
To the Governor; opinion as to obligation of the Governor to use the money in treasury for paying for burnt tobacco.....	93-4
To the Governor, informing him of the determination of suit in Federal court of Hamilton v. Newton in favor of defendant.....	115
To the Governor, concerning a controversy with Captain Potter respecting gun-stocks.....	462
<b>RANDOLPH, D. M.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting commission as colonel in cavalry regiment he proposes to raise.....	533
<b>RANDOLPH, THOMAS M.</b>	
To the Governor, proposing to raise a company of riflemen in Albemarle for United States.....	536
<b>RANDOLPH, WM.</b>	
Security on Treasurer's bond.....	67
<b>RATIFICATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.</b>	
Governor laid before Board notification from Secretary of State of United States of ratification of same.....	415
<b>REID, ANDREW.</b>	
To the Governor; certificate of destruction of court-house by fire.....	286
Certificate of state of the commission of the peace in Rockbridge county, December 8th, 1804.....	427-8
<b>READ, J. K.</b>	
Report of vessels arriving at Norfolk from West Indies, New York, and Mediterranean, subject to quarantine.....	368
<b>READ, CAPTAIN JOHN.</b>	
To Thomas Newton; report of their mission to the British squadron.....	296-7
<b>READ, THOMAS, SR.</b>	
Elector President and Vice-President of United States.....	75
<b>REPUBLICAN TICKET.</b>	
Meeting of ninety-three members of Legislature and many others selected electors for President and Vice-President of United States.....	74-5
<b>RESOLUTIONS.</b>	
Expressing indignation of the citizens at the conduct of Captain Humphries, sent by thirty-five counties and towns.....	522
<b>RICHARDSON, JAMES B.</b>	
To the Governor, asking instructions as to building and conducting a State penitentiary.....	402-3
To the Governor, promising aid in arresting two murderers, who are supposed to have fled to South Carolina.....	426-7
<b>RIDDICK, J., JR.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for light infantry company.....	563
<b>RIDDLE, RICHARD.</b>	
Certificate of clerk of Caroline court that he is still entitled to his pension.....	278
<b>RITCHIE, ARCHIBALD.</b>	
To the Governor; applies for loan of fifty stand of arms for 2d battalion, 6th Regiment.....	42
<b>RITCHIE, THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting office of Public Printer.....	391
To the Governor, transmitting valuable papers entrusted to him by executor of Mr. Wythe to be deposited among the archives of the Commonwealth.....	511
To Peyton Randolph, resigning office of ensign in his company.....	609

<b>RIVES, LIEUTENANT JAMES.</b>	
Return of light infantry company in 62d Regiment, Prince George.....	11
<b>ROANE, ARCHIBALD (Governor).</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing act of Legislature of Tennessee concerning boundary line.....	261
To the Governor, asking that the time for meeting of commissioners on boundary line be fixed at the 3d day of May, 1802, at Captain James Thompson's, in Washington county, Va.....	285-6
To the Governor, appointing October 1st, 1802, for meeting of commissioners on boundary line, at Abingdon, Va.....	314
<b>ROANE, THOMAS, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting thirty-three stand of arms for 109th Regiment.....	297
<b>ROBERTSON, SAMUEL.</b>	
Petition claiming to be a free man of color, illegally brought from Maryland by Cornet Rogers, &c.....	338
<b>ROBERTSON, W. B. AND OTHERS.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for "the Petersburg Republican Light Infantry".....	447
<b>ROBERTSON, JOHN.</b>	
Returning commissions as notary public and superintendent of quarantine ; apprehensions of yellow-fever from Philadelphia.....	30
To the Governor, asking instructions as to holding several offices at same time.....	34
<b>ROBERTSON, JOHN A.</b>	
To the Governor, asking, in name of owners of negroes Joe and Bob, for a pardon or reprieve.....	273-4
<b>ROBINSON, BENJAMIN.</b>	
Advised to be appointed as major to 11th Regiment.....	30
<b>ROBINSON, J.</b>	
To Daniel L. Hylton, soliciting appointment as collector of rents of the Bristoe estate.....	451
<b>ROBINSON, TALLY.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting commission as commandant of a volunteer corps of cavalry for Captain John Reade.....	558
<b>ROOTES, THOMAS R.</b>	
To Samuel Coleman ; report of number and condition of arms to his command....	39
To the Governor, concerning disposition of arms in his possession at time of Western insurrection.....	111
<b>ROSE, HENRY.</b>	
Recommends sundry persons of Alexandria and Fairfax as commissioners to supervise the Presidential election.....	123
<b>ROSE, PATTY.</b>	
Certificate of clerk of Caroline court that she is still entitled to her pension.....	278
<b>ROWE, WILLIAM.</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing Solomon's petition for pardon.....	144
<b>RUFFNER, DAVID.</b>	
Certificate that Joseph Horton has completed his precinct of road from James river to Kanawha river.....	456
<b>ROWLAND, THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of the removal of Alexander Patrick to Kentucky, and appointment of Thomas Rowland as high sheriff of Botetourt ; recommending Alexander Wilson and James Tapscott for appointing electors of President and Vice-President of United States.....	416

<b>RUSSELL, A.</b>	
To the Governor, resigning command of 57th Regiment, and recommending Major Armistead Long for colonel.....	417
To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for troop attached to 57th Regiment.....	448
<b>RUSSELL, WILL.</b>	
Certificate of recommendation of persons suitable as members of court of directors of Hospital at Williamsburg.....	13
<b>S</b>	
<b>SAGUARESSA (Indian chief).</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting the aid of the Legislature in collecting the scattered remnants of his people.....	332
<b>SAM (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	148
Testimony of Prosser's Ben.....	149
<b>SAM (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	156
<b>SANCHO (Negro man).</b>	
Condemned in Halifax court for insurrection; testimony of Abram and Bob.....	294
<b>SAUNDERS, DAVID.</b>	
To the Governor, asking instructions as to validity of appointment of adjutant of 91st Regiment .....	29
<b>SAUNDERS, CAPTAIN J.</b>	
To the Governor; return of ordnance and troops under his command.....	446
<b>SAVAGE, LITTLETON, AND OTHERS.</b>	
Recommend negro Abraham to mercy of the Governor.....	40
<b>SAWNEY (Negro).</b>	
Testimony of Prosser's Ben; Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	146
<b>SCIPIO (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Caroline court for insurrection; the said court do recommend Scipio to his Excellency as an object of mercy; endorsed "pardoned".....	166
<b>SCOTT, JOHN B. (of North Carolina).</b>	
Elected brigadier-general of 11th Brigade.....	1
To the Governor; various opinions respecting arms and militia.....	94
To the Governor, informing him of sundry parties suspected of being concerned in insurrection .....	294
Informing of a plot for insurrection formed by the negroes in that State, and warning the people of Virginia.....	307
<b>SCOTT, C.</b>	
To the Governor, asking compensation for forty swords bought for Prince Edward cavalry .....	64
<b>SELDEN, MILES.</b>	
Certificate of administering oath, as members of the Privy Council, to John Allen and John White.....	3
<b>SEMPLE, JAMES.</b>	
To Alexander McRae, soliciting arms, &c., for Williamsburg troop.....	443
To the Governor, soliciting pistols for troop at Williamsburg.....	453
<b>SENATE OF VIRGINIA.</b>	
Election of four electors of President and Vice-President of United States.....	189
<b>SIMSAL, WM. F.</b>	
Recommended as cornet in new cavalry company to be raised in Frederick county	25



SINGLETON, JAMES.

- To the Governor, soliciting agency for collecting arrears of taxes in brigade district of which Frederick forms part..... 38
- Bond for collecting arrears of taxes in brigade district of Frederick and Berkeley on file..... 48

SINTON, JOHN.

- To the Governor, informing him of the death of Col. Thomas Lee, collector on Bristoe's tract; soliciting the office..... 450

SHACKELFORD, LYNE.

- Qualified as member of Privy Council by Daniel L. Hylton, 4th February, 1804..... 388

SHARP, WM.

- To the Governor, informing him concerning state of the commission of the peace of Norfolk borough; also as to militia fines in 54th Regiment since 1802; also of strength and arms of regiment; soliciting arms for same..... 483-5
- To the Governor; return of 54th Regiment and of artillery and of horse within its bounds; soliciting arms for regiment before July 4th..... 488-9
- To the Governor, giving reasons for not making immediate return of the 54th Regiment; dissatisfaction with late law, causing many to resign..... 507

SHEE, JOHN.

- To the Governor, commending the zeal of Robert McCormick in fulfilling contract for manufacturing arms..... 128
- To George Hay, relating to contract of Robert McCormick for making arms..... 129
- To the Governor, announcing first arrival of muskets under McCormick's contract..... 137
- To the Governor, informing him that McCormick does not punctually comply with contract for fifty muskets per week..... 186
- To the Governor, relating to shipment of arms by Robert McCormick..... 191
- To Samuel Coleman, informing him that Robert McCormick, contractor of arms, had failed..... 207
- To the Governor, giving his opinion of John Clark as a business man, &c..... 213
- To the Governor, forwarding receipt of John Miles for check; pleasure at the liberal treatment by the State to employees..... 372
- To Samuel Coleman, acknowledging receipt of draft for \$1,228 in full of claim on State..... 375-6

SHEFFEY, DANIEL.

- To the Governor, informing him of report of committee of House of Delegates on finances of Commonwealth..... 341
- To the Governor, concerning report asked for from Executive concerning expenditures of Executive department..... 343

SHELTON, JOSEPH.

- To the Governor, soliciting arms for his troop..... 412

SHEPARD (Captain of cavalry).

- Instructions as to objects of his mission to Lynhaven Inlet..... 543-4

SHEPARD, ELIZABETH, AND FAMILY.

- To the Governor; deed for negro man Tom; consideration, \$500..... 203

SHEPHERD, THOMAS.

- To the Governor; solicits commission as captain of a rifle company..... 533

SHEPARD, MOSBY.

- To the Governor, informing him of information of Gabriel's insurrection..... 134

SHEPARD, PHILIP.

- Interviewed by Samuel Coleman as to sale of negro Pharoah, who was the principal agent in disclosing the late conspiracy..... 201-2
- To the Governor, deed for negro man Pharoah; consideration, \$500..... 203

SHEPARD, NAT.

- To the Governor, reporting (for Mr. Berkeley) amount of cash in treasury..... 44-5
- To the Governor, reporting balance in treasury August 31st..... 47
- Statement of tobacco fund, made at request of the Treasurer..... 98
- To the Governor, stating balance in treasury..... 107

**SHEPARD, SAMUEL.**

To the Governor, asking that special agent be sent to Philadelphia to collect amount of execution against Wm. Stokes.....	28
To the Governor, concerning sale of property of John Beale, sheriff of Botetourt..	37
To the Governor, asking that the salary of Mr. Jackson, clerk of accounts, be reinstated to \$625.....	292
To the Governor; report of warrants issued for making arms from 31st of January, 1803, to January 17th, 1804.....	384
Certificate that there has been no collector of taxes in county of Norfolk for 1796, 1798, 1801, and 1802.....	387-8
To the Governor, informing him of amounts drawn on contingent fund .....	414
To Samuel Coleman, informing him of subscriptions by the State to Appomattox Canal Company.....	429
To the Governor; report concerning comparative expense of Public Guard, with equal number of troops of the United States in garrison.....	465
To the Governor, informing him of amount of warrants issued on fund appropriated for "manufacturing arms, including officers' salaries," since 5th of February last .....	496
Certificate of amounts drawn on fund for completing manufactory of arms, foundry, and boring-mill, from 5th of February, 1806.....	497

**SHERRARD, ROBERT, AND OTHERS.**

To the Governor, complaining of oppressive conduct of Hunter, Alexander, and Orrick, magistrates of Berkeley county.....	339
--	-----

**SHIELDS, JOHN P.**

To the Governor, forwarding eight cannon from Hood's; stating their condition...	599
To the Governor, informing him of employing Captain Garrison's schooner for transporting cannon, shot, &c.; also vessels of Sails & Darrington for same .....	605

**SHORE, JOHN.**

Elected elector of President and Vice-President of United States.....	189
---	-----

**SKEPWITH, FULWARE.**

Statement of correct balance due Artist Houdon on account of statue of General Washington .....	365-6
---	-------

**SLAUGHTER, PHILIP, AND OTHERS.**

Recommending Major Robert Powell as superintendent of arsenal contemplated...	8
To the Governor, recommending Philip Lightfoot for lieutenantancy at the arsenal contemplated at Culpeper, Madison or Orange.....	13

**SMYTHE, ALEXANDER.**

To Samuel Coleman, complaining of the mode of selecting the colonel from the 17th Brigade, General Preston's division.....	598
To the Governor, proposing to raise a regiment of light infantry to be commissioned as "The Virginia Legion".....	600

**SMITH, DANIEL.**

To the Governor, praying, in name of Col. George Huston, of 58th Regiment, for division of same.....	467
--	-----

**SMITH, PEYTON.**

To the Governor, soliciting appointment as superintendent quarantine at Yorktown	451
--	-----

**SMITH, JOHN TABB.**

To the Governor, solicits agency for collection of arrears of revenue taxes of Princess Anne and Norfolk .....	344
To the Governor, enclosing return of 16th Brigade; the 51st Regiment without a field officer; troop of cavalry commanded by Captain Bush. Taylor.....	354

**SMITH, GEORGE W.**

To the Governor; report of number of officers, rank and file, of the Richmond Light Infantry Blues, 19th Regiment.....	444
To the Governor, requesting appointment of ensigns in companies of Captains Richardson and Hallam, 19th Regiment.....	501
Qualified as member of Privy Council December 15th, 1807.....	616

# INDEX.

671

<b>SMITH, JAMES H.</b>	
To Col. Alexander Stuart, accepting captain's commission in company of light infantry in 2d Regiment Virginia Volunteers; recommending names for lieutenant and ensign for same.....	586
<b>SMITH, ROBERT.</b>	
To the Governor, transmitting impression of the medal presented to the late Commodore Edward Preble.....	616
<b>SOLOMON (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection September 11th.....	140
To the Governor, petition for pardon.....	144-5
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	157
Testimony of Ben Woolfolk; endorsed "Solomon pardoned".....	157
Recommended to the mercy of the Executive by the court who sat on his trial.....	158
<b>SOUTHALL, J. B.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning commitment of negro Sam; believed to be a dangerous character.....	262-3
<b>SPARK, JAMES.</b>	
To the Governor, claiming sheriffalty of Mathews.....	126
<b>SPOTSWOOD, ALEXANDER.</b>	
To Edmund Randolph, sending order on clerk of Council for manuscript books of Governor Spotswood's correspondence with the British ministry, &c.; Edmund Randolph's receipt for same.....	510
<b>STANARD, WM.</b>	
Offers a donation of land for erection of arsenal in Orange county.....	70
<b>STARK, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, suggesting purchase of seasoned gun-stocks for armory; also bar iron for same.....	393
<b>STEMPSON, CHARLES.</b>	
To the Governor, recommending a hospital at Jordan's Point.....	129
<b>STEPHENSON, MAJOR DAVID.</b>	
Relating to election of General Robert Poterfield as member of House of Representatives of United States.....	24
<b>STEPHENSON, J., AND OTHERS.</b>	
Concerning the nominations of justices for Berkeley county.....	47
<b>STEPTOE, JAMES C.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of the death of Col. Trigg, M. C.; asking that the Executive would issue a writ for an election to fill the vacancy.....	412
<b>STEVE, JOSEPH, AND OTHERS.</b>	
Soliciting pardon for Elisha Johnson, convicted in district court at Winchester.....	53
<b>STEWART, ALEXANDER.</b>	
Elected to Privy Council in room of Hardin Burnley, and qualified.....	62
<b>STEWART, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor; the keeper of rolls transmits copies of papers deposited in office of General Assembly.....	5
To Major White, relating complaints of people of Monroe county as to appointment of clerk, judge, &c.....	7
To the Governor, transmitting copy of proceedings of court of Greenbrier county..	46
<b>STODDERT, BEN.</b>	
To John Hopkins, approving the form of deed for conveyance of property at Gosport to the United States; sending draft for \$12,000 to pay for same.....	202
<b>ST. HILLAIRE, FELIX D.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting his seal to certificate of residence in Winchester Va.; certificate of J. Peyton and E. Smith to same.....	186

<b>STOKELEY, J.</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing official bond of Phelps & Kincheloe for completing State road to mouth of Little Kanawha.....	347
To the Governor, informing him of Harris' escape, convict from the penitentiary in Ohio.....	473
<b>STONE, EDWARD.</b>	
To Bathurst Claiborne, information concerning an apprehended insurrection.....	265
<b>STORRS, GERVAS, AND JOSEPH SELDEN.</b>	
To the Governor, expressing opinion that Gabriel was chief mover in contemplated rebellion.....	138
Confession of Solomon.....	147
Confession of Ben Woolfolk.....	150-2
<b>STRODE, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor; report on arms at factory of George Wheeler.....	197
Certificate of examination of 100 stand of arms made by George Wheeler.....	203
Certificate of examination of 200 muskets manufactured at Wheeler's works and packed for Richmond.....	283-4
<b>STUART, ARTHUR BALD.</b>	
To the Governor; satisfaction with time and place suggested by Kentucky commissioners for work of boundary line.....	38
Elector President and Vice-President of United States.....	75
<b>STUART, ALEXANDER.</b>	
To the Governor; report on management of penitentiary.....	477-9
<b>SWAN'S ARMS.</b>	
Conditions upon which they will be received.....	174
<b>SWAN, JAMES.</b>	
To R. Pollard, concerning his shipments of arms from Hamburg.....	21
To the Governor, informing him of having the arms of the last contract ready, and of the delay of shipment on account of ice.....	106-7
Statement of 4,000 stand of arms; late purchase.....	193
<b>SUSSEX COUNTY.</b>	
Recommendation of militia officers.....	364
<b>SUTHERLIN, ADAM.</b>	
Deposition as to John Fallen stealing a negro man, and finding him at Fort Massack on the Ohio.....	2
<b>SUTTON, JOHN.</b>	
To the Executive, asking certificate of citizenship for Daniel Sutton.....	202
To the Governor, stating time of residence of his sons in Virginia to secure citizenship.....	203
<b>T</b>	
<b>TALBOT, DAVID G. AND BENJAMIN HADEN.</b>	
Certify that Col. T. M. Clarke was requested by regimental court to petition the Governor for a division of the 53d Regiment by the present battalion lines.....	497
<b>TALIAFERRO, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, contending for sheriffalty of King George county.....	480
To Wm. Hening, recommending Gawin C. Turbeville as colonel of militia of King George county.....	482
<b>TATE, WM., FRANCIS PRESTON, AND OTHERS.</b>	
To the Governor, enclosing patriotic resolutions of people of Washington county..	563
<b>TAYLOE, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, tendering services as a dragoon officer, and to raise a regiment of volunteer cavalry at his own expense.....	534-5

To the Governor, asking response to his proposition to raise a volunteer corps of cavalry .....	658
To the Governor, soliciting appointment as collector at Norfolk.....	658
<b>TAYLOR, ALLEN.</b>	
To the Governor, accepting appointment as agent of Commonwealth to dispose of land of John Smyth, sheriff of Botetourt, for revenue of 1801.....	413
<b>TAYLOR, ROBERT B.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of action of an association in Norfolk for organizing a troop of cavalry, and election of officers to same.....	470
Instructions as to objects of his mission to Lynhaven Inlet to enforce the proclamation of the President.....	544 b
<b>TAYLOR, CREED.</b>	
To the commissioners of Kentucky, expressing his anxiety to complete the business of the boundary line between Virginia and Kentucky.....	33
Elector President and Vice-President of United States.....	75
To the Governor, stating difficulties of communicating with Governor of Tennessee about boundary.....	216
To the Governor, accepting appointment as commissioner for Virginia to adjust the boundary line with Tennessee.....	205
To the Governor, concerning a reported insurrection.....	283 4
To the Governor of Tennessee, suggesting the 1st day of October, 1802, for beginning the boundary line of Virginia and Tennessee, at the place in Washington designated by Mr. Roane .....	201
To the Governor, requesting copy of act of Legislature of Tennessee appointing commissioners for adjusting the boundary line, &c.....	201
To the Governor, accepting appointment to seat on the bench of the general court	455
<b>TAYLOR, JOHN, AND OTHERS.</b>	
Certificate as to identity of John Hipkins, impressed on board British ship of war Stork, and seeking to be released.....	18
To the Governor, accepting appointment as Senator of United States in place of Stephen T. Mason.....	340
Tenders the services of 54 privates of the 73d Regiment as a part of requisition; recommendations of sundry officers of John Taylor as Captain .....	544
To the Governor, making various inquiries concerning the organization of the volunteer levy.....	646 7
To Major Wm. Kirke, forwarding an agreement, signed by numerous parties, for forming a volunteer troop of dragoons, to be known as "the Northern Neck Volunteer Corps of Light Dragoons".....	497 8
<b>TAYLOR, JAMES.</b>	
Certificate of settlement with the representations of Robert Borland.....	116
To the Governor, relating to the payment of the sum due to the contractors of the Marine Hospital at Norfolk, &c.....	186
To the Governor, informing him that there being no danger from infectious disease, the proclamation of 21st of September had been withdrawn: no case of disease on any vessel had occurred.....	556-6
To the Governor: satisfaction of superintendent of quarantine with sum allowed for his services: suggesting what would be reasonable for the physician, and other expenses.....	490
<b>TAZEWELL, LITTLETON W.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning assistant counsel in case of Commonwealth and Wm. Archer.....	56
To the Governor, recommending Mr. Marsh of Norfolk as military judge.....	181
To the Governor, informing him of the breaking up of troop formerly his, and of his resignation.....	481
To the Governor, relating experience on a visit to British squadron, insuring a correspondence of Captain Douglas and Mayor of Norfolk .....	525-32
To Major Wm. Dudley, informing him of arrangements made with officers of the British squadron for communication conditional arrangement by Major Tazewell stated .....	555
To the Governor, report of mission to British commander of squadron .....	556-7
To Brigadier-General, District, report of the mission to the British squadron, and delivery of officers and answers, and the satisfaction of the commander thereby .....	556 72

<b>TEAKLE, JOHN, JR.</b>	
To the Governor, asking appointment of commissioner of wrecks in place of Wm. Polk, infirm .....	436
To the Governor, informing him of willingness of Mr. Polk to resign office of commissioner of wrecks; recommending William Paramore for same .....	440
To the Governor, recommending Samuel Crippen as commissioner of wrecks in Accomac.....	419
<b>TEBBS, FOUSHEE G.</b>	
To the Governor, objecting to mode of organizing Virginia Legion.....	598
<b>TEBBS, COL. WILLOUGHBY.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of collecting arms in Prince William and their condition .....	112
<b>TEMPLEMAN, SAMUEL.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him of resignation as inspector of tobacco before resuming magistracy .....	118
<b>THORNTON (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Caroline court for insurrection; testimony of Ben Woolfolk and Edmund .....	168
<b>THORNTON, FRANCIS.</b>	
To the Governor, solicits appointment as ensign of Public Guard.....	502
<b>THORNTON, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for his company.....	541
<b>THURSTON, C. M.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him that he had employed Mr. Page to assist Attorney General in suit against Martin's executors.....	214
<b>THWEATT, ARCHIBALD.</b>	
To the Governor, inquiring whether Maclin can hold office of coroner and assessor .....	8-9
<b>TIMBERLAKE, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him that Duncan McLaughlin had failed to give bond as sheriff.....	215
<b>TINSLEY, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, informing him he would, by 3d of November, deliver sufficient holsters and sword-belts from four companies.....	419
<b>TOBACCO WAREHOUSE.</b>	
Sundry proposals for furnishing and laying bricks for.....	231-2
<b>TODD, CHARLES, JR.</b>	
To the Governor, complaining of court of Caroline for recommending his junior officer as major of regiment .....	485
<b>TOM (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection.....	154
<b>TOMPKINS, CHRISTOPHER.</b>	
To the Governor, resigning office as lieutenant-colonel commandant of 87th Regiment militia.....	500
<b>TREASURER OF STATE.</b>	
To the Governor, reporting balance of cash on hand August 3d.....	40
<b>TORBORN, ANDREW.</b>	
To the Governor, recommending Thos. Wilcox as Supt. Quarantine at Jordan's Point .....	134
<b>TRIGG, ABRAM.</b>	
To the Governor, recommending John Taylor to the command of regiment of cavalry in room of Col. Larkin Smith .....	612-13

<b>TRIUMPH, SHIP.</b>	
List of persons examined on board.....	583
<b>TRUMBULL, JONATHAN.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning resolutions of Virginia Legislature to be laid before Legislature of Connecticut.....	3
<b>TUCKER, ST. GEORGE.</b>	
Allotted judge in districts of Northumberland Courthouse, King and Queen Court- house, Williamsburg, and Accomac.....	56
To the Governor, soliciting supernumerary copies of Laws of Virginia that may be found among Council books.....	330
To the Governor, offering a model of telegraph between Norfolk and Hampton, prepared by himself.....	528
<b>TUBEUF, F. AND A.</b>	
To the Governor, concerning security for loan made by State to F. P. De Tubeuf...	359
To the Governor, relative to the nature of the security required by the Government of them; referring to Mr. James Campbell, of Petersburg, as their agent.....	363
<b>TURNER, THOS.</b>	
To Major-General Lee, informing him of notice given to Colonel Redman and Ma- jors Fleet and Camp of appointment as field officers to regiment drawn from 14th Brigade .....	582
<b>TURPIN, HORATIO.</b>	
To the Governor, stating cause for apprehension of insurrection in Powhatan.....	275
<b>TYLER, JOHN.</b>	
Allotted judge of districts of Richmond, Petersburg, Brunswick Courthouse, and Stafford.....	56
<b>TYLER, SAMUEL.</b>	
Elected member of Privy Council.....	225
<b>U</b>	
<b>UNDERWOOD, LIEUTENANT THOMAS.</b>	
To Col. Alexander Quarrier, informing him of an attack on the sentinel at the Capitol by four men with bricks.....	298
Official bond as one of the superintendents of public warehouse lodged ..	381
Report of holsters and sword-belts made at the penitentiary.....	446
Certificate of inspection of holsters, cartridge-boxes, and sword-belts made at peni- tentiary .....	458
To the Governor, suggesting the flooring of upper story of public warehouse for storing flour, &c.....	466
Certificate of inspection of holsters, sword-belts, and straps for holsters.....	491
Certificate of inspection of holsters and sword-belts made at penitentiary.....	492
To the Governor; certificate of inspection of sword-belts and holsters made at penitentiary .....	503
To the Governor, informing him of readiness to settle his accounts with Public Guard .....	509
<b>V</b>	
<b>VANCE, ROBERT.</b>	
Recommended for 2d lieutenant of new cavalry company to be raised in Frederick county.....	25
<b>VASHON, LIEUTENANT GEORGE.</b>	
To Thomas Newton, informing him of landing of men from one of the British ships	599
<b>VAULK, JOHN.</b>	
Recommended as ensign in 67th Regiment.....	54
<b>VENABLE, ABRAHAM B.</b>	
Elected United States Senator.....	379
To the Governor, resigning seat as Senator of United States.....	410

<b>VERSER, DANIEL, J. P., AND G. GREEN.</b>	
Certificate of confession of negro man Lewis.....	299
<b>VIDAL, WM. GEORGE.</b>	
Admitted to citizenship in court of Middlesex county.....	446
<b>VIRGINIA MILITIA.</b>	
Seventy-sixth Regiment petition for a division by the Monongalia river.....	498
<b>VIRGINIA, STATE OF.</b>	
Proclamation of Governor of; appointment of electors of President and Vice-President of United States; names of same.....	189-90
<b>W</b>	
<b>WAGNER, JACOB.</b>	
To the Governor, forwarding copies of laws of United States to State of Virginia....	418-19
<b>WALKER, ROBERT.</b>	
Admitted a citizen of the United States.....	29
Admitted a citizen of the United States 13th of June, 1802.....	331
Certificate of number of free negroes and mulattoes in York and James City counties in 1804.....	443
<b>WALKER, FRANCIS.</b>	
To the Governor, forwarding map of line run by T. W. and D. Smith from Steep Rock Creek to Tennessee river.....	318
<b>WARNER, JOHN.</b>	
To the Governor, solicits appointment as agent for collecting arrears of taxes from sheriffs.....	502
<b>WATT (Negro).</b>	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection; testimony of Prosser's Ben.....	171-2
<b>WATKINS, JOHN D.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms, &c., for troop of New Kent and Charles City.....	446
<b>WATKINS, T., JR.</b>	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for troop of cavalry raised in Prince Edward county.....	473
<b>WASHINGTON COUNTY.</b>	
Officers of the 70th Regiment petition for division.....	5
<b>WHEELER, GEORGE.</b>	
To A. Blair, offering to manufacture 1,500 stand of arms at \$13 40.....	12
To the Governor, asking advance on arms being manufactured by him; proposal for self and Bront to make rifles, &c.....	192
<b>WHEELER, LUKE.</b>	
To the Governor, transmitting papers concerning bringing two negroes from State of New York to Norfolk by P. W. Green.....	441-3
<b>WHITAKER, W.</b>	
To the Governor, resigning inspectorship of penitentiary, having been appointed clerk to same.....	414
<b>WHITE, ROBERT.</b>	
Allotted judge of districts of Winchester, Hardy, and Monongalia Courthouse.....	56
<b>WHITE, THOMAS.</b>	
To the Governor, relating to 93d Regiment militia of Hanover.....	96
To the Governor, asking a reprieve for negro man named Liberty, condemned in Hanover court for murder.....	172
To the Governor, soliciting appointment as brigadier-general in the quota of militia to be raised under act of 18th of April, 1806.....	581
<b>WHITLAW, THOMAS.</b>	
To John Clarke, soliciting an advance for building walls of public warehouse.....	234



# INDEX.

677

## WEAVER, LITTLEBURY.

To the Governor, offering to return a brass six-pounder, loaned by Executive, from Point of Fork to exercise his company with..... 480

## WEISIGER, DANIEL.

To the Governor, informing him of resignation of Captain Smith: request to fill vacancy; soliciting arms, &c., for company..... 454  
To the Governor, soliciting the use of field pieces for his company..... 506

## WEST, JOSHUA.

Solicits money for use of militia called out by Col. Lambert on account of the insurrection..... 157  
To the Governor, asking instructions as to guard at court-house for Logwood, and that it be increased to eight men..... 399

## WESTWOOD, JOHN S.

To the Governor, resignation of wreck master for Elizabeth City county, and recommending John Toppin for same..... 484

## WILCOX, THOMAS.

Bill for hire of vessel for quarantine purposes for sixty-six days lodged..... 457

## WILL (Negro).

Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection, September 11th..... 141

## WILLIAM (Negro).

Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection..... 154

## WILLIAMS, CHARLES.

To the Governor, soliciting appointment as master armorer at Richmond..... 49

## WILLIAMS, JOHN, AND OTHERS.

To the Governor, recommending James Wigginton as collector of rents on Bristoe's estate..... 451

## WILLIAMS, JAMES.

To the Governor, relating to rank of Captain Lightfoot..... 192

## WILLIAMSON, GEORGE.

To the Executive, offering to clean and stamp arms for 12 cents; arms in Capitol damaged by bad packing..... 108  
Requested to examine arms forwarded by Swan and report condition..... 194  
To the Governor, declining post of master armorer on account of insufficient salary..... 257-8  
To the Governor, report of condition of arms examined by him..... 293

## WILLIAMSON, JOSEPH.

To John Clarke, respecting efforts made at Springfield to prevent artificers from coming to Virginia..... 217

## WILKINSON, WILLIAM.

To the Governor, informing him of reports of insurrection of negroes in North Carolina; asks instructions as to his duty as lieutenant-colonel of Nansemond county..... 307

## WILSON, BENJAMIN.

To the Governor, recommending officers in Robinson's company..... 37

## WILSON, JAMES.

To the Governor, soliciting arms for company of cavalry..... 538

## WILSON, JOSIAH.

Certificate of election of Nicholas Sebrell and William Allen to represent county of Surry in General Assembly..... 353

## WILSON, JOHN.

Bond for return of sixty-eight stand of arms issued to Nathaniel Wilkinson, lieutenant of Henrico..... 98

WILSON, WM.	
To the Governor, concerning the obligation of a sheriff to collect the revenue of 1799 .....	53
WINSTON, EDMUND.	
Allotted judge of districts of Prince Edward Courthouse, New London, Washington Courthouse, and Sweet Springs in Botetourt county .....	56
WINSTON, WM. O.	
To the Governor, asking for indulgence on his debt to Commonwealth as sheriff of Hanover .....	120
WIRT, WM.	
Certificate of resolution concerning arms issued from public arsenal .....	63
Elected judge of district court of chancery to be held at Williamsburg .....	276
To the Governor, resigning office of judge of superior court of chancery for district of Williamsburg .....	353
WISDOM, CRADDOCK.	
To the Governor, resigning office of first inspector at Deane's warehouse .....	351
WISE, NIXNAN.	
To the Governor, informing him of completion of work at armory; asking for more .....	54
WOLCOT, O.	
To Otway Byrd, concerning the payment by the United States Government for the Marine Hospital at Norfolk, and the conveyance of the same .....	184-5
WOODS, ARCHIBALD, AND WM. MCKINLEY.	
To the Governor; petition for division of militia of Ohio and Brook counties .....	5
WOOD, JAMES.	
Elected member Privy Council in room of John Mayo .....	62
To Robert McCormick & Co.; acceding to their proposals for fifty muskets and bayonets weekly, at \$13 50 .....	66
Opinion of arms furnished by Swan .....	90
Qualified as member of Council .....	113
To the Governor, recommending appointment of Dr. John H. Foushee as quarantine agent at Richmond .....	311
Certificate as to services of Col. Simon Morgan as an officer of Revolutionary army .....	494-5
WOOD, JOHN.	
Nominated in City Council as mathematical surveyor of Richmond to be certified to president and professors of William and Mary College .....	439-40
WOOD, LEIGHTON.	
To the Governor, soliciting clerkship to superintendent of Penitentiary .....	99
WOLFE, BENJAMIN.	
To the Governor, soliciting ammunition for his regiment .....	480
WOOLFOLK, BEN (Negro).	
Condemned in Henrico court for insurrection; pardoned September 18th .....	152
WREN, JOSEPH.	
Recommended by county court of Sussex as lieutenant .....	59
WRIGHT, STEPHEN.	
To Samuel Coleman; return of arms of companies of Captain Magnean and others of 7th Regiment and of 95th Regiment .....	42
To the Governor, regretting that arms for rifle company cannot be furnished; asking for commissions for officers of the 7th Regiment .....	496
WYATT, SPEEVY.	
To the Governor, soliciting arms for 7th Regiment of Norfolk county .....	520
WYTHE, GEORGE.	
Elector of President and Vice-President of United States .....	75

## Y

## YANCEY, CHARLES

- To the Governor recommending John Pittman to conduct election in town of W  
 1. Lewis a non-resident ..... 178
- To the Governor solicits appointment as agent for collecting arrears of taxes from  
 sheriffs ..... 304

## YANCEY, D.

- To the Governor soliciting arms for Louisa troop ..... 402

## YOUNG, RICHARD

- To the Governor concerning unfair treatment by a board of officers ..... 27

## YOUNG, H

- To the Governor resigning appointment of brigadier general ..... 474















9  
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